**2012 Page One Award Winners**

*If you would like to order duplicate awards, or have any awards-related questions, please contact Minnesota SPJ at minnesota.spj@gmail.com.*

**NEWSPAPER CATEGORIES**

**Spot News | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

First Place

Chao Xiong  
Mary Lynn Smith  
*Star Tribune*

“Court rampage follows verdict”

Chao Xiong and Mary Lynn Smith skillfully covered a tough story: A shooting rampage in a courthouse. The story was well reported, well written and full of rich detail. Take these graphs: "Lillie used Scannell's belt as a cinch around his leg. Scannell, in shock, screamed for an ambulance and told Lillie to make sure his wife knew he loved her. His breath began to grow shallow and labored. 'He kept saying he couldn't breathe over and over,' Lillie said. Scannell slumped over and tried to lie down, but Lillie sat him up so blood wouldn't pool in his lungs, all the while urging the county attorney to keep breathing and telling him he was doing well." Talk about putting the readers at the scene.

**Spot News | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

Second Place

Jim Anderson  
*Star Tribune*

“Get well ... soon?”

**Spot News | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

First Place

Newsroom   
*St. Cloud Times*

“Fire Destroys Freeport Icon”

Coverage of the iconic flour mill went full circle, with breaking photos and updates online, followed by a print story in the next day’s edition. The print story gave a sense of history to this landmark. Particularly pleasing was the accompanying photo galleries the night of the fire and next day recovery.

**Spot News | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

Second Place

Jana Hollingsworth  
*Duluth News Tribune*

“Grief takes hold at The Deeps”

**Spot News | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

Third Place

Briana Bierschbach  
Paul Demko  
*Capitol Report*

“The fall of Tony Sutton”

**Short Feature | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

First Place

Jenna Ross

*Star Tribune*

“"A teacher of life's lessons"”

Humor and a light touch made this story a joy to read. In another writer's hands, it might have been maudlin. But Jenna Ross struck just the right balance, capturing the personality of the professor and the gravity of the situation without overwhelming readers.

**Short Feature | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

Second Place

Corey Mitchell  
*Star Tribune*

“"Teen mom stayed in school, for good"”

**Short Feature | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

Third Place

Andy Greder  
*St. Paul Pioneer Press*

“"Midwest Melody"”

**Short Feature | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

First Place

Christa Lawler  
*Duluth News Tribune*

“You may think it's gross, but to some it's a godsend”

Story shows a deft writing touch in weaving together medical facts and personal details from patients undergoing a treatment that reader had likely never heard about.

**Short Feature | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

Second Place

Jenny Berg  
*St. Cloud Times*

“No Holding Back”

**Short Feature | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

Third Place

Jessica Harper  
*Thisweek Newspapers*

“Teen’s big spirit triumphs”

**Long Feature | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

First Place

Jessica Lussenhop  
*City Pages*

“Forging the Oregon Trail: How three geeks invented the most famous educational game of all time”

This story is well-told through characters who built an American phenomenon. The writer deftly reveals the origins of the Oregon Trail video game and the gigantic impact it had on its creators, players and our electronic culture. The writing flowed smoothly, including the translation of what could have been tiresome business stuff. Strong local appeal on a national subject.

**Long Feature | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

Second Place

Allie Shah  
 *Star Tribune*

“The Little Lama”

**Long Feature | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

Third Place

Mary Divine   
*St. Paul Pioneer Press*

“A town fights for Toni”

**Long Feature | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

First Place

TaLeiza Calloway  
 *St. Cloud Times*

“City Managers have 2 Hometowns”

A great example of watchdog journalism. I really enjoyed reading this story about the city managers who have two hometowns. TaLeiza did an excellent job of interviewing and writing.

**Long Feature | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

Second Place

Briana Bierschbach  
 *Capitol Report*

“Twitter: a political force or an echo chamber?”

**Long Feature | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

Third Place

Ryan Gueningsman  
 *Delano Herald Journal*

“Designing a legend”

**Enterprise Story | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

First Place

Jessica Lussenhop  
 *City Pages*

“The Suicide Files: Deputy Reuttiman tried to save his reputation. Instead, he lost himself”

Excellent writing links the suicide of a deputy to claims of favoritism and mismanagement in sheriff’s office. Well researched, superbly organized and personalized details, presented in gripping narrative, keep a long story absorbing and readable.

**Enterprise Story | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

Second Place

Randy Furst  
Allie Shah  
 *Star Tribune*

“Somalis Turn to Smugglers to Flee”

**Enterprise Story | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

Third Place

Mila Koumpilova  
 *St. Paul Pioneer Press*

“Gifted, Talented, and Invisible”

**Enterprise Story | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

First Place

David Unze  
 *St. Cloud Times*

“Emails Detail Hockey Shakeup”

**Enterprise Story | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

Second Place

Charley Shaw  
 *Capitol Report*

“Crying Wilf: Minnesota Vikings' move out of state is unlikely”

**Enterprise Story | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

Third Place

Chris Newmarker  
Mark Anderson  
 *Finance & Commerce*

“Banks' uptick fails to ignite lending”

**In-depth | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

First Place

Curt Brown  
Jerry Holt  
 *Star Tribune*

“The Road from 9/11”

This writer-photographer team seeks and documents stories of various people impacted by the 9-11 attacks during a trip from Minnesota to New York to create a 10th anniversary series. Excellent writing and pictures produce superb and compelling journalism.

**In-depth | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

Second Place

Jessica Lussenhop  
 *City Pages*

“My Life in the Test Trade: Behind the scenes of the multimillion-dollar standardized essay-scoring business”

**In-depth | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

Third Place

Tad Vezner  
Mila Koumpilova  
MaryJo Webster  
 *St. Paul Pioneer Press*

“Worthington”

**In-depth | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

First Place

Briana Bierschbach  
 *Capitol Report*

“The troubled 20-year history of Minnesota's Indian gaming compacts”

Hard to put down, it was so well written.

**In-depth | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

Second Place

Dylan Thomas  
Sarah McKenzie  
Nick Halter  
Jeremy Zoss

*Southwest Journal*

“The Local Harvest”

**In-depth | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

Third Place

Amy Bowen  
 *St. Cloud Times*

“Hidden in the Heartland”

**Investigative | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

First Place

Pam Louwagie  
Larry Oakes  
James Walsh

*Star Tribune*

“A Lethal Dose”

Good writing with recreation of overdose scene. Purchasing the drugs off the Internet and analyzing them was not only ballsy, but a great service to parents and teens. The newspaper invested time and money into this series, including traveling to the DEA lab in Virginia. Good public service journalism.

**Investigative | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

Second Place

Mark Brunswick  
James Gehrz  
 *Star Tribune*

“Lost Warriors”

**Investigative | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

Third Place

MaryJo Webster  
Elizabeth Mohr  
 *St. Paul Pioneer Press*

“Troubled Landlords”

**Investigative | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

First Place

Peter Passi  
 *Duluth News Tribune*

“Millions in public money spent, but power plant still just a dream.”

After a decade of unfulfilled promises to Minnesota taxpayers and voters, a costly energy project was scrutinized by Peter Passi and the Duluth News Tribune. In a series of articles, Passi looked at the Excelsior Energy project, which has received more than $40 million in public money since 2001 in exchange for promises of a coal gasification plant that would create jobs and energy — but has, in more than 10 years, yet to produce anything but a veil of secrecy. Passi spoke to the project’s supporters as well as its lone longtime critic, a Minnesota legislator, and noted the obstacles to holding the developers of the yet-to-be-seen project accountable, including a 2008 state law shielding the project’s spending records. Considering that the $2 billion power plant project has not yet seen so much as a shovelful of dirt turned in its development, Passi provided a valuable watchdog service by shining a light on the developers and their allies in government.

**Investigative | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

Second Place

Kristi Marohn  
 *St. Cloud Times*

“Empty lots cause problems for cities”

**Investigative | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

Third Place

Sam Black  
 *Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal*

“Block E's Lux trying to resolve judgments”

**Business Spot News | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

First Place

John Welbes  
*St. Paul Pioneer Press*

“Broker links Trooien to $4.3 million condo fraud”

Well-researched and detailed report. Accessible writing on a complicated topic.

**Business Spot News | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

First Place

Charley Shaw  
 *Capitol Report*

“Conflicts strain relations between business, GOP”

**Business Spot News | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

Second Place

John Vomhof Jr.  
 *Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal*

“Some restaurants leave OpenTable”

**Business Spot News | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

Third Place

Brian Johnson  
Paul Demko  
 *Finance-Commerce.com*

“Rottlund Homes shutting down”

**Business Feature | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

First Place

David Shaffer  
Glenn Howatt  
 *Star Tribune*

“Where are the jobs?”

Business pages around the country are quick to write stories about new government incentives promising job creation. The Star Tribune had the nerve and skill to look into those claims to produce an important story for its readers and community.

**Business Feature | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

Second Place

Gregory Pratt  
 *City Pages*

“Diners, Drive-Ins, and Disaster: David Page made Guy Fieri a TV star. Then he lost control.”

**Business Feature | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

Third Place

Wendy Lee  
*Star Tribune*

“Did students at U go a step too far?”

**Business Feature | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

First Place

John Vomhof Jr.  
 *Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal*

“Dave Mona: The PR 'gold standard'”

It was a pleasure to read such an interesting and well-written profile.

**Business Feature | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

Second Place

Jeremy Zoss   
*Downtown Journal*

“Troubling brewing”

**Business Feature | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

Third Place

Chris Newmarker  
*Finance & Commerce*

“Cheerleader in a suit and tie”

**Sports News | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

First Place

Brian Murphy  
 *St. Paul Pioneer Press*

“Big Bang: 600”

Well-written. Really like the pull quotes on the jump page. Input from Thomes gave insight into the man and made the story more meaningful.

**Sports News | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

Second Place

Andy Mannix   
*City Pages*

“Guard scolded lesbian Twins fans”

**Sports News | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

First Place

Kevin Pates  
Rick Weegmen  
John Lundy

*Duluth News Tribune*

“Bulldogs win national championship”

Fantastic teamwork drove home the full impact of the Bulldog's championship for fans, the community and the team. The stories and photos captured the thrill for the community.

**Sports Feature | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

First Place

Andy Mannix  
*City Pages*

“Dough Boy Rises”

Touching story about an atypical athlete. Well written with observations, descriptions from the writer that give additional insight to the man. Makes you hope there are good things ahead for El-Amin.

**Sports Feature | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

Second Place

Richard Chin  
 *St. Paul Pioneer Press*

“Numb and Number”

**Sports Feature | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

First Place

John Vomhof Jr.  
 *Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal*

“Winning Salary Negotiations”

Vomhof took a unique angle to an otherwise standard topic when he put a $23 million salary into perspective for all readers. This clever approach was a win for all potential employees.

**General Column | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

First Place

Ruben Rosario  
 *St. Paul Pioneer Press*

“Vote Compounds Loss”

Moving column, pointing out the pointless action of the legislature and its effect on a patriotic family. I'm sure this opened the eyes of many.

**General Column | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

Second Place

Staff   
 *City Pages*

“50 Reasons MN is best”

**General Column | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

First Place

Mary Jean Port  
 *Southwest Journal*

“The Comfort and Magic of Chairs”

This is a heartfelt reflection on family moments told with a deft touch. A deserving winner.

**General Column | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

First Place

Andrea Swensson  
*City Pages*

“Here's Why We Didn't Sign”

Good information about an important topic. We think readers will understand, and agree, that photographers should retain rights to their work, not the band. Adding a copy of the contract for readers to evaluate is a nice touch.

**Sports Column | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

First Place

Andy Mannix  
Mike Mullen  
*City Pages*

“All-Arrested Team”

Dripping with sarcasm and well-written.

**Graphics | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

First Place

Dana Croatt  
*Downtown Journal*

“Twins: 2010 Season in review”

A well-designed and information-packed graphic that presents team and player statistics in varied formats for a top-notch overall package.

**Graphics | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

Second Place

Derek Thomson  
*Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal*

“Planting Seeds”

**Art and Illustration | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

First Place

Kevin Cannon  
*City Pages*

“Pride Map”

All the colors of fun! Intricate and lively without being cluttered.

**Art and Illustration | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

First Place

Derek Thomson  
*Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal*

“Overpaid Underpaid illustration”

This is a creative presentation that allows the reader to easily navigate a large amount of data. Good balance of artwork and text in the illustration.

**Page Design | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

First Place

Mike Kooiman  
 *City Pages*

“Rarified Air”

Motion, in hard-copy! Not an easy feat, but well done.

**Page Design | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

First Place

Derek Thomson  
*Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal*

“Best Doctors section front”

An appealing design that effectively displays the story text with artwork that draws the eye in rather than be distracting.

**Front Page Design | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

First Place

Mike Kooiman  
 *City Pages*

“My Life in the Test Trade”

Do they still use forms like that? You know immediately what the subject will be ... and it puts a knot in your stomach.

**Front Page Design | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

First Place

Craig Gustafson  
 *Duluth News Tribune*

“Aug. 4 front page”

Clean and effective design with good use of photos and graphics in main package that help tell the emotional story of the search for a drowning victim.

**Front Page Design | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

Second Place

Dana Croatt  
 *Downtown Journal*

“A New Target”

**Front Page Design | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

Third Place

Jake Schreiber  
 *Finance & Commerce*

“March 18 Seeking cause of gas blast”

**Headline | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

First Place

Michael Decaire  
 *St. Paul Pioneer Press*

“At rest. At home. At last.”

The head is clever, has immediate impact and stirs curiosity.

**Headline | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

Second Place

Kevin Cusick  
 *St. Paul Pioneer Press*

“'L' of a coach”

**Headline | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

Third Place

Kevin Hoffman  
 *City Pages*

“Duck, Duck, Dog: WCCO screws the pooch on sweeps story”

**Headline | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

First Place

Mary Armstrong  
 *Finance & Commerce*

“When money talks, sometimes it says: ‘I’m dirty’”

Clever headline that fits well with story on attempts to fight money laundering.

**Headline | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

Second Place

Craig Gustafson  
 *Duluth News Tribune*

“His judgment cometh, your weekend ruineth”

**Best Issue | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

First Place

Newsroom   
 *Star Tribune*

Top notch photography, design and reporting on issues that are important to readers.

**Best Issue | Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

Second Place

Staff   
*City Pages*

“Mad About the Twin Cities”

**Best Issue | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

First Place

Staff  
*Duluth News Tribune*

“June 12, 2011”

Well-written and packaged stories on a variety of local topics paired with a good mix of state and national news, sports and opinion pieces makes the News Tribune a worthy winner. Strong photography and design add up to a top-quality newspaper.

**Best Issue | Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

Second Place

Staff  
 *Park Bugle*

“December 2011”

**MAGAZINE CATEGORIES**

**Best Profile Story | Magazine**

First Place

Kate McCarthy Freeman  
 *Mpls/St. Paul Magazine*

“Caroline 2.0”

A personal story engages the readers without completely avoiding critical statements

**Best Profile Story | Magazine**

Second Place

Steve Lange  
 *Rochester Magazine*

“Can this man mend fences?”

**Best Profile Story | Magazine**

Third Place

Christy DeSmith  
 *Super Lawyers*

“The Crusader”

**Best Feature Story | Magazine**

First Place

Steve Lange  
 *Rochester Magazine*

“The Man who Built the City”

Thoroughly researched with good quotes from several sources. Historical profiles are always tough sailing and you did a great job tackling the subject.

**Best Feature Story | Magazine**

Second Place

Chris Gibbs  
 *Lake Superior Magazine*

“Sauna on St. Ignace”

**Best Feature Story | Magazine**

Third Place

Christine Lienke  
 *WomenincMagazine*

“10,635 Orphans”

**Best Cover | Magazine**

First Place

Ellen Thomson  
Amy Nelson  
Lauri Hopple  
*Spaces Magazine / St. Paul Pioneer Press*

“Outdoor Living”

An extremely clean and thoughtful design. The type and the walkway guide the eye in a perfect circle. Great job.

**Best Cover | Magazine**

Second Place

Jamie Fitzgerald  
*Rochester Magazine*

“Single in the City”

**Best Cover | Magazine**

Third Place

Staff   
 *Rochester Magazine*

“Rochester 2020”

**Best Page Design | Magazine**

First Place

Jamie Fitzgerald  
 *Rochester Magazine*

“Assignment Consignment”

I'm becoming a Jamie Fitzgerald fan. Nice job of flavoring the design to fit the subject matter.

**Best Feature Design | Magazine**

First Place

Jamie Fitzgerald  
*Rochester Magazine*

“Single in the City”

This is an awesome job of designing something usable and informative. Lots of good information loaded into an appealing package, without that look-what-I-can-do vibe that often comes through.

**Best Feature Design | Magazine**

Second Place

Dana Croatt  
 *Minnesota Parent*

“Toy Guide”

**Best Illustration | Magazine**

First Place

Kirk Lyttle  
Ellen Thomson  
Amy Nelson

*Spaces Magazine / St. Paul Pioneer Press*

“2011 Garden Guide”

This is quite amazing. I'd pay good money for this illustration just to frame and hang on my wall. Really original and quite appropriate.

**Best Issue | Magazine**

First Place

Staff   
*Rochester Magazine*

“Rochester Magazine September 2011”

I wanted to keep flipping through and the departments really made sense together. Highly readable.

**Best Issue | Magazine**

Second Place

Ellen Thomson  
Kirk Lyttle  
Molly Guthrey  
Heidi Raschke

*Spaces Magazine / St. Paul Pioneer Press*

“Spring Summer Resource Guide”

**Best Issue | Magazine**

Third Place

Mary Pattock  
Dan Woychick  
*Reach*

“Fall 2011 Issue: Conducting Peace”

**TELEVISION CATEGORIES**

**Spot/Breaking News | Television [50+ newsroom employees]**

First Place

Boyd Huppert  
Craig Norkus  
 *KARE*

“Alexandria Earthquake”

Judges appreciated the way the entrant let the subjects of the story tell the story. Well edited with good use of nat sound.

**Spot/Breaking News | Television [LESS than 50 newsroom employees]**

First Place

Katey Rusch  
David Cowardin  
 *WDIO/WIRT*

“Occupy Duluth Tents Removed”

Good video that really told the story.

**Hard News Report | Television [50+ newsroom employees]**

First Place

Boyd Huppert  
Jonathan Malat  
 *KARE*

“North Minneapolis Tornado: From Bad to Worse”

The team who produced “North Minneapolis tornado coverage first 24 hours “showed accuracy and completeness in their breaking news coverage. They used enterprise and ingenuity to bring the not only stories, but critical relevant information to their listeners.

**Hard News Report | Television [50+ newsroom employees]**

Second Place

Tom Lyden  
Brian Wiedeke  
 *KMSP- TV*

“Ex-Recruit Speaks Out”

**Hard News Report | Television [50+ newsroom employees]**

Third Place

Tom Lyden  
Brian Wiedeke  
 *KMSP-TV*

“Stillwater Lift Bridge”

**Hard News Report | Television [LESS than 50 newsroom employees]**

First Place

Gordon Severson  
Brandon McElroy  
 *KAAL-TV*

“Father/son stab teen 39 times with fork and knife”

The reaction of the witness and her description of the crime was compelling. The reporter brought out the best in her.

**Hard News Report | Television [LESS than 50 newsroom employees]**

Second Place

Katey Rusch  
Carl Sauer  
 *WDIO/WIRT*

“Eyes along the border”

**Feature | Television [50+ newsroom employees]**

First Place

Boyd Huppert  
Jonathan Malat  
 *KARE*

“Duffers”

Wonderful story! From the arrival at the golf course; to being introduces to the characters; to the importance of the group in the player’s lives; this story keeps the viewer captivated! It is beautifully shot and well produced.

**Feature | Television [50+ newsroom employees]**

Second Place

Tom Lyden  
Tomoko Townsley  
 *KMSP-TV*

“Prayer Center Founder Faces Eviction”

**Feature | Television [LESS than 50 newsroom employees]**

First Place

Samantha Mehrotra  
Ryan Hanson  
 *WDIO/WIRT*

“Without A Voice”

The story of a little child with an incurable condition that few people, including doctors, know about and the dedication of the parents is gripping. The photography was outstanding.

**Feature | Television [LESS than 50 newsroom employees]**

Second Place

Ellery McCardle  
 *KAAL-TV*

“Twin Brother, Girlfriend Remember Kevin Dammen”

**Feature | Television [LESS than 50 newsroom employees]**

Third Place

Sarah Swistak  
Brandon McElroy  
 *KAAL-TV*

“Hoofin' it for Charity”

**Mini-documentary/In-depth Series | Television [50+ newsroom employees]**

First Place

Mark Albert  
Chirs Hansen  
 *KSTP-TV*

“Leading the Way Home”

Beautifully produced. This series exemplifies the excellence in journalism. The applicants showed enterprise and ingenuity in finding their story subjects. Provided clarity, insight and respect for the audience.

**Mini-documentary/In-depth Series | Television [50+ newsroom employees]**

Second Place

Mark Albert  
Jared Bergerson  
 *KSTP-TV*

“A Journey of Hope”

**Mini-documentary/In-depth Series | Television [50+ newsroom employees]**

Third Place

Boyd Huppert  
Jonathan Malat  
John Drilling  
*KARE*

“Amazing Kids”

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**Mini-documentary/In-depth Series | Television [LESS than 50 newsroom employees]**

First Place

Steve Goodspeed  
Ryan Hanson  
 *WDIO/WIRT*

“Pagami Creek Firefighters”

This is what quality video news is about. The journalists took us someplace and showed us something we would never be able to witness as viewers. They showed us several behind-the-scenes aspects of firefighting that the public probably did not know existed.

**Mini-documentary/In-depth Series | Television [LESS than 50 newsroom employees]**

Second Place

Fanna Haile-Selassie  
 *KTTC*

“The Changing Face of Rochester”

**Investigative | Television [50+ newsroom employees]**

First Place

Mark Albert  
Jim O'Connell  
Mike Maybay  
Erik Altmann

*KSTP-TV*

“Welfare Waste”

Welfare Waste exemplifies investigative journalism. Through adherence to high journalistic standards the team was able to bring change to Minnesota welfare. The issue is significant to the viewer and the team presented the story effectively. Nice job!

**Investigative | Television [50+ newsroom employees]**

Second Place

Mark Albert  
Mike Maybay  
Lee Zwiefelhofer  
Jim O'Connell

*KSTP-TV*

“Suspending Your Safety”

**Investigative | Television [LESS than 50 newsroom employees]**

First Place

Darren Danielson  
Glenn Kellahan  
*WDIO/WIRT*

“Underwater Enemy”

Coverage of a problem that could impact many people in the viewing area down the line. Very educational.

**Newscast | Television [LESS than 50 newsroom employees]**

First Place

Staff  
 *WDIO/WIRT*

“Eyewitness News at Ten - Sept. 13, 2011”

The team coverage of a big fire from all angles was the story of the day. Well done. The writing and excellent use of the video helped give this show a quick pace. While the station owned that story it also made room for other important local news. The newscast also featured some very nice graphics.

**Newscast | Television [LESS than 50 newsroom employees]**

Second Place

Sarah Danik  
Matt Bradley  
Adam Sallet  
Newsroom

*KIMT News 3*

“KIMT News 3 Election Coverage 6pm "Beyond the Border"”

**RADIO CATEGORIES**

**Spot/Breaking News | Radio**

First Place

Rupa Shenoy  
Brandt Williams  
Jessica Mador  
Cathy Wurzer

*Minnesota Public Radio*

“North Minneapolis tornado coverage first 24 hours”

The team who produced “North Minneapolis tornado coverage first 24 hours “showed accuracy and completeness in their breaking news coverage. They used enterprise and ingenuity to bring the not only stories, but critical relevant information to their listeners.

**Hard News Report | Radio**

First Place

Laura Yuen  
Laura McCallum  
*Minnesota Public Radio*

“Family IDs Minn. man allegedly behind Somali suicide bombing”

It takes a good radio reporter to allow the listener to see a radio story. Laura Yuan provides clarity for the audience to see her story. Through creative approach the audience is guided though a significant story. The editing, utilizing ambient sound, provides insight to the story subject and his relevance in the audience’s lives.

**Hard News Report | Radio**

Second Place

Elizabeth Baier  
Kate Smith  
 *Minnesota Public Radio*

“For Latino immigrants, good health hard to maintain”

**Feature | Radio**

First Place

Tim Post  
Bill Wareham  
 *Minnesota Public Radio*

“Professor with terminal cancer uses illness to teach”

Applicants showed creative use of radio’s unique capabilities. Wonderful use of ambient sound to bring the audience to the story subject. Judges appreciated the respectful manner and insight the story provided on an often difficult topic.

**Feature | Radio**

Second Place

Jessica Mador  
Jeffrey Thompson  
Laura McCallum  
Mike Edgerly

*Minnesota Public Radio*

“With her husband deployed, Jenny Munoz finds war is far from over”

**Feature | Radio**

Third Place

Mahi Palanisami  
*KFAI-FM*

“Hindustani Music Master Dr. Pooja Goswami-Pavan”

**Mini-documentary/In-depth Series | Radio**

First Place

Julie Siple  
Nancy Lebens  
Mike Edgerly  
Caroline Yang

*Minnesota Public Radio*

“The Face of Hunger”

Wonderfully produced series of stories! The team creatively used aspects unique to radio to introduce the audience to the story subject and the characters.

**Mini-documentary/In-depth Series | Radio**

Second Place

Susan Gray  
*KFAI-FM*

“MLK Park's Freedom Form II”

**Feature-length Documentary | Radio**

First Place

Annie Baxter  
Curtis Gilbert  
Chris Roberts  
Mike Edgerly

*Minnesota Public Radio*

“Writing Minnesota”

Beautifully executed feature length documentary on Minnesota writers. The team took a hard radio subject and made it interesting to the audience. Use of music and interesting subjects made for an enjoyable listening experience.

**Feature-length Documentary | Radio**

Second Place

Todd Melby  
 *KFAI-FM*

“Yesterday's Revolution - The Minneapolis 78 RPM Record Scene”

**Investigative | Radio**

First Place

Tom Weber  
Bill Wareham  
 *Minnesota Public Radio*

“Minnesota: Weak on Bullying”

Wonderfully addresses a significant issue facing students across the country. The series investigation adheres to high journalistic standards.

**Newscast | Radio**

First Place

Rick Kupchella  
News Staff  
 *BringMeTheNews*

“BringMeTheNews Newscast 8-8-11”

Exemplifies the best of the newscast entries.

**Newscast | Radio**

Second Place

Rick Kupchella  
News Staff  
 *BringMeTheNews*

“BringMeTheNews Newscast 9-13-11”

**Newscast | Radio**

Third Place

Rick Kupchella  
News Staff  
 *BringMeTheNews*

“BringMeTheNews Newscast 6-28-11”

**ONLINE CATEGORIES**

**Best Website | Online**

First Place

Jen Boyles  
*City Pages*

[www.citypages.com](http://www.citypages.com)

Strong homepage showcasing, lengthy and original content written with a web audience in mind, good use of photos, easy to navigate, good use of social media.

**Best Website | Online**

Second Place

Newsroom   
 *Minnesota Public Radio*

“minnesota.publicradio.org”

**Best Website | Online**

Third Place

Joel Kramer  
Corey Anderson  
Kaeti Hinck  
Newsroom

*MinnPost*

“www.minnpost.com”

**Best Single News Story | Online**

First Place

Tom Weber  
Bill Wareham  
Jeffrey Thompson  
Justin Heideman

*Minnesota Public Radio*

“Minnesota: Weak on Bullying”

Through its six-month investigation, Minnesota Public Radio produced a thorough look at issues with bullying across the state, revealing that Minnesota's state law on bullying is among the weakest in the nation. The piece was well reported and had a strong online presence.

**Best Single News Story | Online**

Second Place

Cynthia Boyd  
Jeff Severns Guntzel  
*MinnPost*

“Poverty surging in Twin Cities' suburbs”

**Best Continuing Coverage | Online**

First Place

Sharon Schmickle  
 *MinnPost*

“Rural Minnesota: A Generation at the Crossroads”

Well-written and interesting stories on the challenges faced by young adults in rural areas. Good diversity of topics and the selective use of video in the posts make for an excellent package.

**Best Continuing Coverage | Online**

Second Place

Madeleine Baran  
Jeffrey Thompson  
Laura McCallum  
Mike Edgerly

*Minnesota Public Radio*

“Failed Justice: Death Investigations in Minnesota”

**Best Continuing Coverage | Online**

Third Place

Sheila Regan  
 *Twin Cities Daily Planet*

“Contracts, transparency and Minneapolis Public Schools”

**Best Use of Multimedia | Online**

First Place

Jeffrey Thompson  
Steve Mullis  
Than Tibbetts  
David Cazares

*Minnesota Public Radio*

“"Following the Firearms"”

MPR staff members put together a powerful project and told the story well in a truly multimedia fashion. The package included video, audio, text and interactive graphics. Each medium served its purpose and served the story. The Google map, though not laborious to construct, undoubtedly had readers clicking for details.

**Best Use of Multimedia | Online**

Second Place

Mark Albert  
Chris Hansen  
 *KSTP-TV*

“"Leading the Way Home"”

**Best Use of Multimedia | Online**

Third Place

McKenna Ewen  
Jerry Holt  
 *Star Tribune*

“"Quamba's Townball Tradition"”

**Best Single News Video | Online**

First Place

Jeffrey Thompson  
 *Minnesota Public Radio*

“Deployment on the homefront”

First place: Deployment on the Homefront is a compelling look at a military family where combat does not take center stage. Jeffrey Thompson spent considerable time with the family and his commitment to story shows. Visually, a good mix of photo and video, with superb photojournalism. Good pacing in the edit. Second place: Two Lives in one World was a definite contender for first place - a very tough call. Visually, a good mix of photo and video in a story that was tough to illustrate. Good pacing in the edit. Third place: No third place.

**Best Single News Video | Online**

Second Place

McKenna Ewen  
David Joles  
 *Star Tribune*

“Two lives in one world”

**Best Use of Video | Online**

First Place

Newsroom   
 *St. Cloud Times*

“St. Cloud Times Video”

This is how video should be used - to show something that can't be adequately described in print, such as seeing a snowy owl take flight. There is also value in seeing the facial expressions and body language of the legislator as he defends his photo ID stance. Quality is a little rough on both, but that's OK. More important to get it out there than to wait until it's polished.

**Best Use of Video | Online**

Second Place

Jenni Pinkley  
 *Star Tribune*

“Star Tribune Video”

**Best Newsroom Blog | Online**

First Place

Paul Tosto  
Jon Gordon  
Catharine Richert

*Minnesota Public Radio*

“Minnesota Shutdown 2011 Blog”

An excellent running source of developments in the state budget shutdown. This blog covers a wide section of topics with posts that have good reporting and perspective along with an appropriate number of links to official documents and links to audio reports.

**Best Newsroom Blog | Online**

Second Place

Newsroom

*Star Tribune*

“Hot Dish Politics”

**Best Newsroom Blog | Online**

Third Place

Chris Newmarker  
 *Finance & Commerce*

“Cost of Doing Business”

**Best Independent News Blog | Online**

First Place

Beth Hawkins  
*MinnPost*

“Learning Curve”

Learning Curve gives readers a consistent flow of well-reported posts on an impressive array of topics in education -- from local schools districts to universities and state government. This is a blog that relies on solid journalism to inform readers.

**Best Independent News Blog | Online**

Second Place

Ifrah Jimale  
 *Twin Cities Daily Planet*

“Ask a Somali”

**Best Independent News Blog | Online**

Third Place

Ron Meador

*MinnPost*

“Earth Journal”

**PHOTOGRAPHY CATEGORIES**

**Best Spot News Photo | Photography**

First Place

Bill Klotz  
 *Finance & Commerce*

“Seeking cause of gas blast”

The photo told the story and was technically sound.

**Best Hard News Photo | Photography**

First Place

Mark Kartarik  
 *City Pages*

“The Forgotten Neighborhood”

Good use of a panoramic shot

**Best Hard News Photo | Photography**

Second Place

Bill Klotz  
 *Finance & Commerce*

“How real is appetite for apartments?”

**Best Feature Photo | Photography**

First Place

Emily Utne  
*City Pages*

“Doomtree”

Pictures are technically sound and funny.

**Best Feature Photo | Photography**

Second Place

Bob King  
 *Duluth News Tribune*

“Blink: basketball player”

**Best Feature Photo | Photography**

Third Place

Sherri LaRose-Chiglo  
 *St. Paul Pioneer Press*

“Best legs in a kilt”

**Best News Portrait | Photography - Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

First Place

Tony Nelson  
 *City Pages*

“Untrue Blood”

Everything was done right in this portrait.

**Best News Portrait | Photography - Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

First Place

Nancy Kuehn  
 *Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal*

“Business as usual as Trade Office awaits fate in budget battle”

An extremely well-executed environmental portrait.

**Best News Portrait | Photography - Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

Second Place

Clint Austin  
 *Duluth News Tribune*

“Top Dogs”

**Best News Portrait | Photography - Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

Third Place

Paul Dols  
 *White Bear Press*

“Love survives separation of war, still strong after seven decades”

**Best News Portrait | Photography - Online**

First Place

Karl Bremer  
 *Ripple in Stillwater*

“Vennes running”

Good shot for online publication.

**Best Sports Photo | Photography - Newspaper [50,000+ circulation]**

First Place

Ryan Brennan  
 *City Pages*

“Minnesota Parkour”

One of the most interesting sports photo I've seen in a long time.

**Best Sports Photo | Photography - Newspaper [LESS than 50,000 circulation]**

First Place

Dave Schwarz  
 *St. Cloud Times*

“Teams celebrate state victories”

Great capture of a fleeting moment.

**Best Commissioned Magazine Photo | Photography**

First Place

Emily Utne  
 *City Pages*

“Best of the Twin Cities”

Shows great attention to details, imagination, and mastery of technique.

**SPECIAL AWARDS**

**Best Use of Public Records | Special Awards**

Winner

Andy Mannix  
Mike Mullen  
*City Pages*

“RNC Piggy Bank”

These reporters accomplished an impressive task—not just digging up the numbers on RNC spending, but making the complicated financials comprehensible and relevant to readers who had no background on the story.

**Best Use of Public Records | Special Awards**

First runner-up

Brad Schrade  
 *Star Tribune*

“Violated”

**Best Use of Public Records | Special Awards**

Second runner-up

Karl Bremer  
*Ripple in Stillwater*

“Lawyers, Guns, and Money”

**Young Journalist of the Year | Special Awards**

Winner

Abby Simons  
*Star Tribune*

You have a great eye for details. The articles are engaging and thought-provoking. This is story telling at its best.

**Young Journalist of the Year | Special Awards**

First runner-up

Jessica Lussenhop  
*City Pages*

**Young Journalist of the Year | Special Awards**

Second runner-up

Sarah Swistak  
*KAAL-TV*

**Journalist of the Year | Special Awards**

Winner

Brandon Stahl  
 *Duluth News Tribune*

The stories Brandon covered are interesting—he definitely looked beyond run-of-the-mill news to come up with important topics to cover. His engaging and relevant style makes the articles accessible to all types of readers, and it's impressive that he was able to pull off such major stories at a relatively small paper.

**Journalist of the Year | Special Awards**

First runner-up

Doug Grow  
 *MinnPost*

**Journalist of the Year | Special Awards**

Second runner-up

Pam Louwagie  
*Star Tribune*

**Story of the Year | Special Awards**

Winner

Brandon Stahl  
Mark Stodghill  
 *Duluth News Tribune*

“The case of Dr. Konasiewicz”

Staggering depth of reporting.

**Story of the Year | Special Awards**

First runner-up

Pam Louwagie  
Larry Oakes  
James Walsh  
*Star Tribune*

“A Lethal Dose”

**Story of the Year | Special Awards**

Second runner-up

Jessica Lussenhop  
*City Pages*

“The Suicide Files: Deputy Reuttiman tried to save his reputation. Instead, he lost himself.”