



Embargo: Do not release before 6:30 p.m., Thursday, January 26, 2017

Exceptional Journalism Honored in 2016 College Better Newspaper Contest

Members of the Hoosier Press Association reviewed 625 entries submitted by 13 Michigan college newspapers this year and selected three college newspapers for creating great journalism.

The 2016 “College Newspaper of the Year” award is presented to the top college newspapers in three divisions based on points accumulated (100 for first, 70 for second and 40 for third) in all editorial contest categories (categories 1-12). Winners of those awards are:

College Newspapers of the Year

Divisions	Total Points	College Newspapers
Division 1	1,550	Central Michigan University/CM-Life
Division 2	1290	Ferris State University/The Torch
Division 3	1,170	The Collegiate, Grand Rapids Community College

Division 1 - Newspapers publishing more than weekly

Division 2 - Newspapers publishing weekly

Division 3 - Two-year college publications or newspapers publishing less than weekly.

"It is more important than ever to recognize and encourage good, impactful journalism. That is what our college newspapers are doing, and with support and recognition from contests and professionals in the field, that will continue. Our experienced faculty and advisors will see to it as well," said Joanne Williams, associate professor of journalism and mass communication at Olivet College and a past MCPA president.

The 2017 MPA/MCPA College Newspaper Contest opens August 1, 2017

Best Photographer

Division 1 - Best Photographer

6 Entries

The first and second place entries were extremely close. Each had two strong entries and one not as strong. The edge went to the variety offered in the first place entry.

First Place **Central Michigan University/ CM-Life**
Rich Drummond

Two strong photographs lead this entry. The native dancer, while a nice photograph, does not have the emotional or compositional and lighting power of the other two.

Second Place **Central Michigan University/ CM-Life**
Kaiti Chritz

Also a strong entry. The gymnast is perfectly composed and lit at a peak moment in the routine and the couple embracing in the street is an unexpected scene well captured.

Third Place **Central Michigan University/ CM-Life**
Monica Bradburn

Good sports action photos. I find the tilted horizons distracting.

Honorable Mention **Grand Valley State University/ Grand Valley Lanthorn**

Emily Frye

Division 2 - Best Photographer

2 Entries

First Place **Ferris State University/ The Torch**
Aubrey Kemme

Second Place **Ferris State University/ The Torch**
Katie Tobak

Division 3 - Best Photographer

6 Entries

First Place **Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate Best Photographer**

John Rothwell

Solid images capturing compelling moments and showing a range of content, good composition and use of light and color.

Second Place **Monroe County Community College/ The Agora**
Julia Toniolo

Nice moment of interaction between two women with frisbee and nice portrait of transgender student. Very people oriented.

Third Place **Lansing Community College/ The Lookout**
Silver Bells event lights up Lansing

Brian Wells

Striking, well-timed and lit photo of fireworks over the capitol, The parade photographs inset expanded the coverage, but inserting them detracts from the impact of the main photograph.

Honorable Mention **Monroe County Community College/ The Agora**

Evan Kutz

Best Writer

Division 1 - Best Writer

8 Entries

This was a tough category to judge with excellent entries across the board. If you didn't place, don't feel bad. The competition was fierce. All of you keep at it. Wow!

First Place **Central Michigan University/ CM-Life**
Ben Solis

Excellent work in many areas. Central Michigan has a great crew pushing each other to excel. You won by a hair.

Second Place **Central Michigan University/ CM-Life**

Malachi Barrett

Many types of entries propelled this writer's work. Central Michigan has got something good going on!

Third Place **University of Michigan/ The Michigan Daily**
Max Cohen

Bobsled story quite well done, drew attention and held it. Welcome back piece shows Max Cohen can write. Tied the past and the present together in an usual article on a long ago season. Very well done.

Honorable Mention **Grand Valley State University/ Grand Valley Lanthorn**

Audra Gamble

Woman fighter, Clinton-Sanders Flint debate, anti Semitic story all exhibit good reporting and writing skills.

Division 2 - Best Writer

9 Entries

Quite the variety of topics and opinions represented by these schools and writers. Continue the good work. This was a very competitive category.

First Place **Ferris State University/ The Torch**
Angela Graf

On point topics plus good reporting paid off. Knowing where the water on campus held lead contamination helpful. Opinion piece well thought out. Great job overall.

Second Place **Hillsdale College/ The Collegian**
Breana Noble

Like topic selection and writing style. The luxury of doing topics like this and in depth should be savored. Congratulations.

Third Place **Ferris State University/ The Torch**
Megan Hiler

Great brief, tight style with a lot of research and opinions packed in. The debauchery article was a hoot. Good job.

Honorable Mention **Ferris State University/ The Torch**
Jonny Parshall

This writer can "turn a phrase" and has a sense of humor. Keep up the good work.

Division 3 - Best Writer

8 Entries

First Place **Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate Best Writer**

Kayla Tucker

Very well done on sensitive issues. Excellent overall effort. Editorial good too.

Second Place **Monroe County Community College/ The Agora**
Evan Kutz

Timely topics and good interviewing skills. Writing didn't knock my socks off but it works.

Third Place **Lansing Community College/ The Lookout**
Gibsons drops LCC textbook lawsuit

Aaron Emerson

Honorable Mention **Lansing Community College/ The Lookout**
LCC community pitches in to help out with Flint crisis

Shelby Schueller

One article does not hold up against several. Keep plugging away.

Column- Review or Blog- News or Sports

Division 1 - Column- Review or Blog- News or Sports

13 Entries

There was quite a variety of material in this category. It was good to see so many different kinds of columns entered. There were some difficult decisions involved to come up with these winners.

First Place **Central Michigan University/ CM-Life**

CMU should be open about sexual assault

Sydney Smith

This writer tackled a very serious topic without pulling too hard on heartstrings. This was well researched and well written.

Second Place **Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo**

Stop defending Islam as a 'religion of peace'

Jacques Vorves

Whether you agree with this viewpoint or not, you have to admit the write did his homework before expressing his view.

Third Place **Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo**

Misfits like Trump and Sanders are a healthy sign

C.A. Joseph Peters

This one shows a lot of digging into history. It could have placed higher if the writer had included quotes from interviews with expert sources.

Honorable Mention **University of Michigan/ The Michigan Daily**

Sports Monday Column: I tried out for the Michigan football team

Max Cohen

Well written column based on personal experience.

Division 2 - Column- Review or Blog- News or Sports

22 Entries

There were a lot of strong entries in this category.

First Place **Hillsdale College/ The Collegian**

From a Millennial: an open letter to those who raised us

Sarah Albers

This was well reasoned and well written.

Second Place **Hillsdale College/ The Collegian**

The Confederate flag is an important part of history

Hailey Morgan

Very personal, very poignant look at a national controversy.

Third Place **Hillsdale College/ The Collegian**

Schumer: feminist 'trainwreck'

Katherine Scheu

Well reasoned, well written, and on a very important topic -- role models for young women.

Honorable Mention **Hillsdale College/ The Collegian**

Curt Schilling, sports, and character

Stevan Bennett

This came very close to winning third place.

Division 3 - Column- Review or Blog- News or Sports

26 Entries

A number of the entries were marked down for grammatical and other errors. Overall, a good showing.

First Place **Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate**

If no ones going to start the conversation, I will.

Kayla Tucker

I like how this writer not only pointed out a problem, but also offered a solution.

Second Place **Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate**

What its like being a journalist at a Donald Trump rally: unsettling

John Rothwell

Third Place **Monroe County Community College/ The Agora**

Politics of a poisoned city

Adam Rayes

This writer did his research, explaining what went wrong, but didn't fall into the trap of failing to express his own opinion.

Honorable Mention **Schoolcraft College/ The Connection**

Porn: affecting viewers worldwide

Elaine Gerou

HM. Porn

The writer applies logic to a topic driven by passion.

Editorial

Division 1 - Editorial

18 Entries

First Place **Central Michigan University/ CM-Life**

Make Crawford Road streetlight project, student safety a priority

Malachi Barrett

Second Place **Central Michigan University/ CM-Life**

Board of Trustees will likely vote this week to raise tuition

Malachi Barrett

Third Place **University of Michigan/ The Michigan Daily**

From the Daily: Standards significantly raised

Editorial Board

Division 2 - Editorial

20 Entries

First Place **Hillsdale College/ The Collegian**

Stop telling us we're smart

Sarah Albers

Second Place **Hillsdale College/ The Collegian**

A footnote for educational freedom

Macaela Bennett

Third Place **Cornerstone University/ The Herald**

Our View: The Starbucks red cup controversy

Brittany Jacobson

Honorable Mention **Cornerstone University/ The Herald**

Our View: 'Super Tuesday was not so super'

Brittany Jacobson

Division 3 - Editorial

9 Entries

First Place **Schoolcraft College/ The Connection**

They deserve more

Schoolcraft Connection Staff

Second Place **Schoolcraft College/ The Connection**

Rock the Vote

Connection Staff

Third Place **Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate**

Editorial: Paris attacks deserve a better response

The Collegiate Staff

Honorable Mention **Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate**

EDITORIAL: Donald Trump cannot be the Republican nominee

The Collegiate Staff

Division 1 - Feature Photo

7 Entries

Strong category with lots of very good images.

First Place **Central Michigan University/ CM-Life**

Unbreakable Spirit

Samantha Madar

Excellent work showing the life of the subject.

Second Place **Central Michigan University/ CM-Life**
Welcome Weekend
 Kaiti Chritz
Compelling moment with intriguing lighting.

Third Place **Central Michigan University/ CM-Life**
Cadets
 Monica Bradburn
Great angle. I assume they were not live rounds.

Honorable Mention **Central Michigan University/ CM-Life**
Polar Plunge
 Monica Bradburn
Great expression. Straightening the horizon and tightening the crop would have made a more dramatic image.

Division 2 - Feature Photo

11 Entries

First Place **Hillsdale College/ The Collegian**
Cheetah photo
 Ben Block

Second Place **Hillsdale College/ The Collegian**
Kitten photo
 Madeline Barry

Third Place **Ferris State University/ The Torch**
Flying Zuzus Photo
 Katie Tobak

Honorable Mention **Ferris State University/ The Torch**
Let's taco 'bout sledding
 Chris Martin

Division 3 - Feature Photo

8 Entries

Some of the entries were from galleries that included better photographs than the one designated.

First Place **Schoolcraft College/ The Connection**
Diamond in the rough
 Alex Regish
Dynamic peak moment with good composition, angle and lighting.

Second Place **Monroe County Community College/ The Agora**
Father and daughter in the office
 Julia Skrobowski
Engaging portrait of father and daughter, with an interesting and different viewpoint.

Third Place **Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate**
Weekend in Pictures
 John Rothwell
Photo shows intensity and dedication of player.

Honorable Mention **Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate**
A star is BORN: former GRCC music student on the rise
 John Rothwell

Feature Story

Division 1 - Feature Story

28 Entries

First Place **Grand Valley State University/ Grand Valley Lanthorn**
Fighting through fear
 Audra Gamble

Second Place **Grand Valley State University/ Grand Valley Lanthorn**
Finding happiness in heels
 Audra Gamble, Kevin Sielaff

Third Place **Central Michigan University/ CM-Life**
Unconventional medicine: Students cope with feelings of depression, anxiety with support of therapy animals

Jordyn Hermani

Honorable Mention **Central Michigan University/ CM-Life**
Unpleasant Reality: CMU looks at racism in Mount Pleasant and on campus
 Ben Solis

Division 2 - Feature Story

26 Entries

The winners were strong, and several good entries came up just short of earning honorable mention. Those in the top eight to 10 (out of 36) were there because they told their stories in a compelling fashion. Leads sucked the reader into the story, quotes propelled them forward. It's important to remember a great feature piece is not just about finding an interesting subject, but about telling the story in a way that makes your reader eager to get to the next paragraph, and the next paragraph and the next.

First Place **Hillsdale College/ The Collegian**
An ode to the 'Donnybrook'
 Micah Meadowcroft

An ode to the 'Donnybrook' was the clear winner, which is impressive in a category that had so many entries. It is compellingly told from start to finish, with a good variety of sources and an intermingling of current events and history. Great job.

Second Place **Hillsdale College/ The Collegian**
Nation's oldest living auctioneer lives in Hillsdale County
 Lillian Quinones

The lead carries this piece. Excellent job of painting a picture for the reader. I could see the auctioneer working the crowd.

Third Place **Ferris State University/ The Torch**
Livin' on osprey-er
 Keith Salowich

This piece edged several others for third place because of its depth. While well-written, some of the other entries merely scratched the surface of their subjects. Could have been even better with the inclusion of additional sources, specifically students.

Honorable Mention **Ferris State University/ The Torch**
Picking up the paddles
 Keith Salowich

This category was deep enough to merit honorable mention. Kudos to the writer for taking what likely could have been a boring story and making it interesting.

Division 3 - Feature Story

36 Entries

First Place **Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate**
Community (college) policing with GRCCs finest
 Avery Jennings

Good storytelling here on a campus policeman whom many see but likely few know. Nice work finding someone in your campus community to profile and doing so with heart.

Second Place **Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate**
Broken The Reluctant Caregiver
 Jill Rothwell

It's tough for a first-person narrative to make the cut among other features boasting multiple sources, but this one makes the grade. Nice work on a difficult subject -- a loved one's drug addiction.

Third Place **Lansing Community College/ The Lookout**
Disability doesn't rule Professor Deb Bishop
 Jaimie Bozack

Find a person and tell their story -- this piece nails a basic tenant of journalism. Good work.

Feature Story**Honorable Mention Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate***How Almost Dying Restored My Will To Live*

Mike Balmer

First-person narrative is tricky, especially because we tend to see all the details in our own lives as important, which can bog down a story. The beginning of this piece is gripping, with excellent storytelling, but the middle drags a bit -- and to be honest, borders on self-congratulatory about the drug use. The end finishes up nicely but leaves the reader wanting more detail. We spend the majority of the story wondering about the accident, but there is little detail at the end to justify your headline. Good writing -- just not enough payoff to crack the top three.

Front Page Design**Division 1 - Front Page Design**

8 Entries

First Place University of Michigan/ The Michigan Daily*Michigan Daily Front Page Entry 2*

Michigan Daily Design

Second Place Grand Valley State University/ Grand Valley Lanthorn*Holi Festival*

Staff

Third Place University of Michigan/ The Michigan Daily*Michigan Daily Front Page Entry*

Michigan Daily Design

Honorable Mention Central Michigan University/ CM-Life*Nov. 16 Cover: Are you OK?*

Michael Farris

Division 2 - Front Page Design

14 Entries

First Place Hillsdale College/ The Collegian*Front page - March 10*

Megan Prom

Second Place Cornerstone University/ The Herald*Front Page Design, Vol 47, Issue 21*

Allison Todd

Third Place Ferris State University/ The Torch*4/6 Front Page*

Jordan Lodge

Honorable Mention Hillsdale College/ The Collegian*Front page - Oct. 29*

Vivian Hughbanks

Division 3 - Front Page Design

8 Entries

First Place Schoolcraft College/ The Connection*Schoolcraft Connection Front Page Design 12-7-2015*

Alexandra Deykes

Second Place Delta College/ Delta Collegiate*Feb. 22, 2016*

Staff

Third Place Schoolcraft College/ The Connection*Schoolcraft Connection Front Page Design 02-22-2016*

Hanna Olson

Honorable Mention Monroe County Community College/ The Agora*The Agora Front Page 9-23-15*

Shelby Spencer

Investigative Reporting**Division 1 - Investigative Reporting**

13 Entries

First Place Central Michigan University/ CM-Life*FCC Auction*

Sydney Smith, Johnathan Hogan, Editorial Board

This reporting wins based on its truly investigative efforts. Without CM Life paying attention to this issue, it's likely something that would have played out behind closed doors entirely. Kudos for using an open records request to obtain information and force the issue into the public eye.

Second Place Central Michigan University/ CM-Life*Catholic Church removes Father Denis Heames*

Sydney Smith

Depth was key here. While the Catholic Church wasn't doing much talking about the dismissed priest, CM Life still went after it from different angles. It not only reported on the lawsuit and a previous investigation, but spoke with an expert to delve deeper into the topic. The editorial adds to the overall coverage. Nice job.

Third Place Grand Valley State University/ Grand Valley Lanthorn*Following the Battle of the Valleys funds*

Audra Gamble

One wonders whether, if not for the push from the student newspaper, anything would have been done with funds collected for charity. The staff deserves credit for not only letting the GVSU community know that funds had not been distributed but also letting those in need know how to apply.

Division 2 - Investigative Reporting

11 Entries

First Place Hillsdale College/ The Collegian*College Scorecard series*

Vivian Hughbanks

Good old-fashioned reporting here by a writer who wasn't afraid to dog a topic until every angle was uncovered. Hillsdale's absence from a federal list of the country's colleges and universities might have been ignored by some budding reporters. Not Vivian Hughbanks. She asked why -- and it paid off.

Second Place Ferris State University/ The Torch*Mental health matters*

Devin Anderson

Strong use of statistics to back up the assertion more students on campus are being treated for mental health issues; breakout material adds an extra element that strengthens the piece. This falls short because it lacks a poster child -- someone to put a face to the issue of mental health. Don't be afraid to seek these people out; they will make an already excellent story all the more powerful.

Third Place Hillsdale College/ The Collegian*Seventy percent of Hillsdale felons do not go to trial*

Natalie McKee

Strong use of statistics to back up the assertion more students on campus are being treated for mental health issues; breakout material adds an extra element that strengthens the piece. This falls short because it lacks a poster child -- someone to put a face to the issue of mental health. Don't be afraid to seek these people out; they will make an already excellent story all the more powerful.

Division 3 - Investigative Reporting

3 Entries

Three good, solid entries although one was not quite in the correct category. All showed writer's strengths. Well done!

First Place Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate*GRCC professor resigns following sexual misconduct investigation*

Kayla Tucker

Bravo for digging in on this story. Well researched and logically presented. Timely topic too.

Second Place **Delta College/ Delta Collegiate**
Road to Recovery
 Greg Horner
Good research and writing skills show. The demand must be higher for assistance than the supply. How hard that is to obtain would be a good follow up.

Third Place **Monroe County Community College/ The Agora**
McGarry pushes projects
 Evan Kutz
While the articles doesn't quite fit the category, good interviewing and writing skills present an engaging profile.

Multimedia Reporting

Open Class - Multimedia Reporting

39 Entries
Some nice pieces here, but the top four pieces did not stand out from a pool of about eight top videos. Some great topics, but with only a few exceptions, edits needed to be much tighter. So many pieces went way over the three minute mark and would have been so much better edited to a nice tight 90 seconds, or less. Also, the college staffs should be paying as much or more attention to their audio as the visuals.

First Place **Central Michigan University/ CM-Life**
Blessing of the Soccer and Lacrosse field
 Mary Lavictor
Interesting and unique story. Nice A roll, nice B roll throughout. Some problems with sound transitions dinged it a bit, and it needed an interview with one of the athletes, but well done overall. Nice tight edit. Doesn't overstay its welcome.

Second Place **Central Michigan University/ CM-Life**
Craft Beer Brewing
 Ashley Carey
The most complete piece in the competition. Good B roll to go with all the nice A roll (couple focus issues tho). It was too long though, and needed at least a minute lopped off. Less is more. Still, well executed.

Third Place **Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo**
Behind the scenes: Eastern Michigan Gymnastics
 Andrew Mascharka
Pluses are the scenes of the athletes getting ready for competition, and motivation by the coach. Great access. Minus is that it's just too long. Would have been much better edited to half the ten minute length, at least.

Honorable Mention **Central Michigan University/ CM-Life**
Republican Debate in Detroit
 Kaiti Critz
A good TV style piece. Good B Roll to go with clean A Roll. I wanted better natural sound throughout.

News Story

Division 1 - News Story

29 Entries
What a category! The depth and quality of these articles and their topics give me much hope for the future of journalism and communications. All the entries were top notch. Keep it up!

First Place **Central Michigan University/ CM-Life**
Native tuition waiver underfunded by state, universities pick up difference
 Adrian Hedden
Excellent two part story that was well researched and well written but concise. Kuddos for an outstanding look at Native American education funding in Michigan.

Second Place **University of Michigan/ The Michigan Daily**
University embryonic stem cell research sees continued growth
 Alexa John
In depth look at stem cell research at Michigan including history, politics and science was excellent use of campus resource.

Third Place **University of Michigan/ The Michigan Daily**
Study shows Ban the Box legislation may lead to increased racial discrimination
 Mehrunisa Khan
Like the way information on university research was used to explore a not well known topic "Ban the Box." Good reporting and writing.

Honorable Mention **Central Michigan University/ CM-Life**
Study addicts: Abusing prescription drugs comes at great risk, little reward
 Johnathan Hogan
Good study on pertinent topic of prescription drug abuse on campus with outstanding graphic presentation.

Division 2 - News Story

41 Entries
First Place **Ferris State University/ The Torch**
No liquor: Ferris Greek life cracks down on parties
 Mari Ann Loucks
Very good! Both sides covered well! It's a matter that has impact on the readership of the newspaper and it's delivered in a very straightforward way in a clean, concise style. Well done.

Second Place **Hillsdale College/ The Collegian**
Skyfall': Sauk Theater ceiling collapses
 Breana Noble
This was a nice follow-up (I'm guessing, given the ceiling fell seven weeks since the interview was done), with more information and history of the issue and how it will impact future productions.

Third Place **Hillsdale College/ The Collegian**
I'horreur: Students honor victims of ISIS terror attacks
 Evan Carter
This story toes the border between hard news and feature, but I think it still works here. I like the number of voices used here. Well written. Very good.

Honorable Mention **Olivet College/ The Echo**
No education majors
 Brian Freiburger
An excellent showcase of a state (national story, actually, but this piece didn't branch out into that) story being localized.

Division 3 - News Story

20 Entries
First Place **Schoolcraft College/ The Connection**
At the forefront
 Stephan Brown
Very interesting! Some lengthy sentences here, but otherwise, the story reads quickly and pulls the reader in to what some might find dry information and makes it interesting. That sets this story apart from the others.

Second Place **Delta College/ Delta Collegiate**
Road to Nowhere
 Greg Horner
Very pertinent to your readership and well-covered. An excellent news story. Good job!

Third Place **Schoolcraft College/ The Connection**
Think Sky High
 Elaine Gerou
Well written and reads quickly on a story that could easily be a read-the-lead-and-proceed type of story. Good job.

Honorable Mention Schoolcraft College/ The Connection

Bound and determined

Kim Sorenson

Well done — conversational tone and information useful to your readers. I would have liked to see more comments from students in the program or who have benefitted from the program.

News-Only Photo

Division 1 - News-Only Photo

6 Entries

First Place University of Michigan/ The Michigan Daily

Young People Rock DNC

Grant Hardy

Second Place Grand Valley State University/ Grand Valley Lanthorn

Flint Lives Matter

Kevin Sielaff

Third Place Grand Valley State University/ Grand Valley Lanthorn

Bernie Sanders

Emily Frye

Honorable Mention Grand Valley State University/ Grand Valley Lanthorn

Trump

Kevin Sielaff

Division 2 - News-Only Photo

10 Entries

Many entries lacked cutlines, which would have helped the context and meaning.

First Place Ferris State University/ The Torch

Democratic Debate Photo

Devin Anderson

Unusual approach to debate coverage, being alert pays off! Nitpicking: if the camera was a couple of inches lower, Bernie's "mask" may have completely hidden the person's hair, making it even stronger.

Second Place Ferris State University/ The Torch

MLK March Photo

Liz Yost

A gloomy day adds to the ambiance of the MLK march photo. Could have been a shade lighter to better show their faces.

Third Place Ferris State University/ The Torch

Underage drinking photo

Aubrey Kemme

Good photo illustration for the story. Solid composition and lighting.

Honorable Mention Ferris State University/ The Torch

Talking Vaginas Photo

Chris Martin

Division 3 - News-Only Photo

5 Entries

First Place Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate

Presidential Candidate Donald Trump makes first stop in West Michigan

John Rothwell

Thorough and compelling coverage of campaign event with a variety of angles and strong images.

Second Place Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate

West Michigan feels the Bern at GVSU campaign rally for Sanders

John Rothwell

Solid coverage of a campaign event, although there are two many very similar photos of the candidate. Tighter editing would make a stronger package.

Third Place Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate

New Grand Rapids mayor Rosalynn Bliss outlines plans at State of the City 2016

John Rothwell

Thorough coverage of a routine "State of the City" event. Good personality images and some nice portraits. The photos of the emblems seemed out of context and distracting.

Honorable Mention Lansing Community College/ The Lookout

LCC, community salute fallen firefighter Dennis Rodeman

Brian Wells

Non-Front Page Design

Division 1 - Non-Front Page Design

7 Entries

First Place Central Michigan University/ CM-Life

Cooper Rush spread

Michael Farris

This is an attractive design made better by an informative graphic. Nice typography. Nice use of the photo.

Second Place Central Michigan University/ CM-Life

Primary Campaign

STAFF

This is a nice election preview presented in a reader-friendly fashion. I particularly like the quick guide to the issues.

Third Place University of Michigan/ The Michigan Daily

Michigan Daily Non-Front Page Entry 2

Michigan Daily Design

This is an eye-catching presentation. Nicely done. Nice job recreating the look of shattered glass.

Honorable Mention University of Michigan/ The Michigan Daily

Michigan Daily Non-Front Page Entry 3

Michigan Daily Design

This is a nice-looking cover. Makes me want to turn the page to see what's inside.

Division 2 - Non-Front Page Design

18 Entries

First Place Ferris State University/ The Torch

4/6 Lifestyles Design

Jordan Lodge, Mikala Piller

Letting the artwork carry the page is the right call here. Your simple design works. No reason to overthink it.

Second Place Ferris State University/ The Torch

12/4 Lifestyles Design

Jordan Lodge, Nick Vander Wulp

Again, the art makes the package. You can go too far in tinkering with your headline type, but the decorations seem to work in this case. That top mug shot is overlapping the type a bit. Adding a text wrap around your photo should fix that.

Third Place Hillsdale College/ The Collegian

Arts page

Megan Prom

The text on top of the shadow of a cello or violin is a nice idea, but it doesn't quite work. You end up trapping some white space in a couple of places, and the type on top of the screen is a little awkward. You also need a cleaner break between the Turt

Honorable Mention Ferris State University/ The Torch

11/18 News Design

Jordan Lodge

Using the plastic drink cup is a nice design trick to make up for a lack of art, but I wonder whether the cup really sends the right message. Maybe a police badge would work better? I also think the type would display better in two columns rather than four.

Division 3 - Non-Front Page Design

11 Entries

First Place **Schoolcraft College/ The Connection**

Love the locks

Schoolcraft Connection Staff

This is the clear winner. I like all of it. Nice use of the screen. Nice typography. Nice use of photos. All around an attractive page.

Second Place **Schoolcraft College/ The Connection**

Out of the Park

Hanna Olson

This one wasn't too far behind. I like all of the elements, but I think the page would work better if you had done a better job of tying the text to the photos. I'd treat each food item as a single element. With this design, the photos and the copy almost seem like separate elements.

Third Place **Schoolcraft College/ The Connection**

Mocktails

SOPHIA BASTAS

I love the formation of the photos into a shamrock, and I think the text ties clearly to the correct photo. There are a couple of spots where the text doesn't wrap neatly around the photo, but all in all, this is a nice page.

Honorable Mention **Schoolcraft College/ The Connection**

Diamond in the rough

Alexandra Deykes, Jake Mulka, Alex Regish

I like a lot of things about this page. I'm not a big fan of the headline type, and I'm not sure what you accomplish with that double rule below it. Your spacing is also a little off. The spaces between photos should be even, and the top of the byline should line up with the top of the photo on the left-hand side of the page.

Online Newspaper

Open Class - Online Newspaper

3 Entries

First Place **Lansing Community College/ The Lookout**

The Lookout

The Lookout Staff

Second Place **Monroe County Community College/ The Agora**

www.mcccagora.com

Agora staff

Third Place **Ferris State University/ The Torch**

Ferris State Torch

Staff

Original Cartoon Editorial or Entertainment

Open Class - Original Cartoon Editorial or Entertainment

14 Entries

First Place **Hillsdale College/ The Collegian**

Editorial Cartoons

Forester McClatchey

Edgy editorial comments on wide variety of topics. All three were solid.

Second Place **Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo**

Bleeping Bacon Bits

Tony Saylor

Third Place **Ferris State University/ The Torch**

Sexiled

Mikala Piller

Good drawings over a wide range of topics.

Honorable Mention **Ferris State University/ The Torch**

Study. Caffeinate. Repeat.

Mikala Piller

Single Ad

Open Class - Single Ad

9 Entries

First Place **Grand Valley State University/ Grand Valley Lanthorn**

Enclave

Kelsey Kolokowski

Second Place **University of Michigan/ The Michigan Daily**

University Flower Shop - Valentine's Day

George Lankas, Sanjana Pandit

Third Place **Schoolcraft College/ The Connection**

Phi Theta Kappa Induction Ceremony

Sarah Bridges

Honorable Mention **University of Michigan/ The Michigan Daily**

Washtenaw Dairy - Best of Ann Arbor

Alexandria Butler, Haley Fox

Special Advertising Section

Open Class - Special Advertising Section

4 Entries

First Place **Central Michigan University/ CM-Life**

CMU Fraternity and Sorority Life

Staff

Second Place **Grand Valley State University/ Grand Valley Lanthorn**

Housing Guide

Kelsey Kolokowski

Third Place **University of Michigan/ The Michigan Daily**

Festfall Guide

Staff

Honorable Mention **Lansing Community College/ The Lookout**

Signature Ad

Nicole Cade

Sports News/Features

Division 1 - Sports News/Features

18 Entries

Lots of good stories with loads of details. Areas of improvement come in crafting that concise lead paragraph to draw the reader into the story and tightening both the writing and length of stories. It's OK not to include everything that was gathered for a story. Only other reoccurring theme was organization of stories, sometimes better parts of the stories were buried because author felt need to include lesser background information in first few paragraphs.

First Place **Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo**

McCarty visits EMU

Eric Coughlin

What an intimate look into the life of a hockey enforcer. Great descriptive paragraphs pulled me into the story.

Second Place **University of Michigan/ The Michigan Daily**

Like Spike: The unlikely marriage of Spike Albrecht and Michigan

Simon Kaufman

A lengthy story, but with crisp writing and lots of interesting nuggets of information, it kept me reading.

Third Place **Grand Valley State University/ Grand Valley**

Lanthorn

Junior Nickelback stepping into primetime role for GVSU

Adam Knorr

I like the juxtaposition of player looking out decrepit building at his goal. This theme also was tied up at the end of the story.

Honorable Mention University of Michigan/ The Michigan Daily*It's (not) about Jake Rudock*

Max Bultman

*Nice exploration of how an unassuming kid can still lead a football team.***Division 2 - Sports News/Features****30 Entries***Overall, a good strong group of sports reporters at work here.***First Place Ferris State University/ The Torch***Vander Laan makes history*

Marshall Scheldt

*This is a good solid story. The writing is clean. The reporting is solid. The subject matter is good.***Second Place Hillsdale College/ The Collegian***Thanks for the memories, Jim*

Stevan Bennett

*Good quotes. Clear style. Good quotes. I wanted to know more about those two events in the lead though.***Third Place Cornerstone University/ The Herald***Tigers experience a 'dream come true'*

Justin Geerts

*Interesting story that's well written.***Honorable Mention Ferris State University/ The Torch***The Vander-who game show*

Marshall Scheldt

*This is fun. I bet the readers appreciated a break from stats and game scores. Could be a bit more concise in places.***Division 3 - Sports News/Features****10 Entries**

The category had a lot of solid work, but as a category, I was looking for tighter leads that would grab me into the story. Students in many cases needed to get comments from additional sources or would have been better served at moving interesting portions of the story to the front to make it the lead. With publications only coming out once a week at first - even game coverage should be written like a feature story because fans will already know the result - find the item that will connect with the reader on a more emotional level.

First Place Lansing Community College/ The Lookout*Haines 55 breaks LCC scoring marks*

Rich Schenck

*Solid recap of a record-setting performance. Haines' quotes give some insight into his relationship with teammates.***Second Place Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate***Back in the Game: How Deiona Rogers followed her passion back to the hardwood*

Avery Jennings

*Good job of drawing personality out of Rogers. Improvement could have come with comments from coach or other players.***Third Place Lansing Community College/ The Lookout***Women's cross country team earns 2015 title*

Rich Schenck

*Solid story with good quotes. Would like to have seen tighter lead to story - lot of same information in first two paragraphs.***Sports Photo****Division 1 - Sports Photo****10 Entries****First Place Central Michigan University/ CM-Life***Basketball Dunk*

Rich Drummond

*Excellent timing, exposure and expression. Ball in the recoiling net is perfect.***Second Place***Baseball*

Rich Drummond

*Excellent composition and exposure. Pressed the shutter at just the right time. Three intense faces.***Third Place Central Michigan University/ CM-Life***Women's Basketball*

Rich Drummond

*Strong shot great expression on one player's face. Shot tells the story of the game.***Honorable Mention Central Michigan University/ CM-Life***Beam*

Kaiti Chritz

*Nice shot, perfectly timed.***Division 2 - Sports Photo****14 Entries****First Place Ferris State University/ The Torch***Softball slide*

Rebecca Snow

*Nice action with ball arriving and runner kicking up dust as she slides.***Second Place Ferris State University/ The Torch***Mayer Hockey Photo*

Keith Salowich

*Nice action photo with ice spray and bodies flying. Would have been nice to see puck to know if they scored or not.***Third Place Ferris State University/ The Torch***Soccer photo*

Katie Tobak

*Nice action shot of foul being committed, good exposure and composition.***Honorable Mention Ferris State University/ The Torch***Jason Vander Laan photo*

Katie Tobak

*Good football shot, nice expression on runner.***Division 3 - Sports Photo****7 Entries****First Place Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate***Men's Basketball*

John Rothwell

*Excellent shot! Example of catching a rare occurrence at just the right time.**Love the sliding player's expression.***Second Place Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate***GRCC women's basketball team blitzes Wayne County Community College 95-29*

John Rothwell

*Nice symmetrical picture at just the right moment.***Third Place Schoolcraft College/ The Connection***Refuse to Lose*

Alex Regish

*Good shot of intense battle.***Honorable Mention Delta College/ Delta Collegiate***Pioneers Press Forward*

Josie Norris

A nice basketball shot of intense competition.