



THE RICHARD MILLIMAN MICHIGAN Journalist of the Year

FOR WORK PUBLISHED FROM
OCTOBER 1, 2025 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

PRINT AND ONLINE AWARDS FOR JOURNALISTS



Supporting quality community journalism.

ATTENTION MICHIGAN JOURNALISTS:

The work Michigan journalists do is vital to everyone in our state. From man-made disasters to mother nature wreaking havoc, reporters remain on the front lines in their communities.

The MPA Foundation is firmly committed to promoting and encouraging professional journalists across Michigan and we welcome this opportunity to recognize the best of the best in our state. The Richard Milliman Journalist of the Year Award honors journalism that has made a significant impact on our state or in a local community.

How To Enter:

Entries accepted from news outlets, an individual journalist or others acting on their behalf.

A panel of journalism professionals, educators and Foundation board members will judge entries.

Entries will be accepted beginning **August 1, 2026**. The submission should include work from **October 1, 2025 - September 30, 2026**.

For this competition, a "body of work" may comprise up to six examples of the journalist's work during the contest period. Each entry must include a cover letter of up to 300 words highlighting the quality and impact of the journalist's work. Entries may include supporting material to show how the journalist's work made a difference in the community or across Michigan.

DEADLINE: Submit entries with the **Subject** "Journalist of the Year and name of nominee to: diana@michiganpress.org, by **11:59 pm, October 30, 2026**. Include all **1)** attachments, **2)** a login (if behind paywall). Incomplete entries will not be included for judging.

THE WINNER WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN 2027.

Former winners include:

2025 Brian Allnutt, Planet Detroit reporter, honoring his impactful reporting on environmental issues and public accountability in southeast Michigan.

2024 Andrea Sahouri of the Detroit Free Press for her reporting on racist trends at the Renaissance Center which some consider to be Detroit's most iconic high-rise.

2023 Michael Wilkinson and Jonathan Oosting of Bridge Michigan for their reporting on Michigan's grant-making process.

2022 Kelly House for her reporting on the Great Lakes.

2021 Jonathan Oosting of Bridge Michigan for his reporting on the state's election system.

2020 Michael Wilkinson of Bridge Michigan for his reporting on Covid.

2019 Tresa Baldas of The Detroit Free Press for her coverage of sexual assaults at Jamaican resorts.

2018 Paula Gardner of MLive for her reporting on PFAS.

2017 Garrett Ellison of MLive for his watchdog reporting, including his coverage of Nestle water controversy.

2016 Karen Bouffard & Joel Kurth of the Detroit News for revealing a decade-long problem of cleaning surgical instruments at one of Michigan's biggest hospital systems.

2015 Curt Guyette of ACLU for his reporting of the Flint Water Crisis.

Richard Milliman: A Proud Legacy

The Richard Milliman Michigan Journalist of the Year award is an annual competition sponsored by the Michigan Press Association Foundation. In 2016, the award was renamed in honor of Richard Milliman.

Richard Milliman was inducted into the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame in 1994 following a career that spanned more than 60 years in state newspapers. He was a reporter, writer, editor, manager or owner and publisher at more than 40 Michigan newspapers. He was a leader in establishing the Michigan Press Association Foundation to promote, protect and encourage journalism in Michigan.

About the Michigan Press Association Foundation

The Michigan Press Association Foundation was established in 1980 to further the interests of community journalism in Michigan. The Foundation's mission includes serving the public interest by encouraging, fostering and aiding improvements in the quality, vigor and fairness of journalism and a free press in the State of Michigan. The Foundation has invested more than \$330,000 in Michigan journalism since 1990, including the award of nearly 300 scholarships to college-level journalism students.

Michigan Press Association Foundation
1642 Yosemite Dr.
Lansing, MI 48917
www.michiganpress.org/foundation

Contest Page: michiganpress.org/contests-and-awards/