

2023-24 Better Newspaper Contest Winners



Scan to View Entries

Typography and Design

Non-multi-day: up to 1,000

1st Place	Citizen's Advocate	Henning
2nd Place	New York Mills Dispatch	
3rd Place	The Observer/Advocate	Mountain Lake/Butterfield

Non-multi-day: 1,001 to 1,500

1st Place	Tri-County News	Kimball
2nd Place	Maple Lake Messenger	
3rd Place	Stillwater Gazette	

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	Pope County Tribune	Glenwood / Starbuck
2nd Place	Kanabec County Times	Mora
3rd Place	Grant County Herald	Elbow Lake/Herman/Hoffman

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	Lakes Area Review	New London/Spicer
2nd Place	The Ely Echo	
3rd Place	Crystal/Robbinsdale/ New Hope/Golden Valley Sun Post	

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Southwest Connector	Minneapolis
2nd Place	Northeaster	Minneapolis
3rd Place	Fillmore County Journal	Preston

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	Marshall Independent	
2nd Place	The Bemidji Pioneer	
3rd Place	Albert Lea Tribune	

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	The Free Press	Mankato
2nd Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar
3rd Place	Brainerd Dispatch	

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead
2nd Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester
3rd Place	Duluth News Tribune	

Editorial Page as a Whole

Non-multi-day: up to 1,000

1st Place	The Kerkhoven Banner	
2nd Place	Waseca County Pioneer	
3rd Place	Citizen's Advocate	Henning

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Editorial Page as a Whole

Non-multi-day: 1,001 to 1,500

1st Place	Jackson County Pilot	
2nd Place	Tracy Area Headlight Herald	
3rd Place	County News Review	Cambridge

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	The Timberjay	Tower/Ely/Cook-Orr
2nd Place	Faribault County Register	Blue Earth
3rd Place	Pope County Tribune	Glenwood / Starbuck

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	The Ely Echo	
2nd Place	Crystal/Robbinsdale/ New Hope/Golden Valley Sun Post	
3rd Place	Blaine / Spring Lake Park / Columbia Heights / Fridley Life	

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Winona Post	
2nd Place	Northeaster	Minneapolis
3rd Place	Sartell-St. Stephen Newsleader	

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	Albert Lea Tribune	
2nd Place	Austin Daily Herald	
3rd Place	The Bemidji Pioneer	

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	The Free Press	Mankato
2nd Place	Alexandria Echo Press	
3rd Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	Grand Forks Herald	
2nd Place	Duluth News Tribune	
3rd Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester

General Reporting

Non-multi-day: up to 1,000

1st Place	Waseca County Pioneer	
2nd Place	Osseo/Maple Grove/Champlin/Dayton Press	
3rd Place	Citizen's Advocate	Henning

Non-multi-day: 1,001 to 1,500

1st Place	Perham Focus	
2nd Place	Pine Journal	Cloquet
3rd Place	Frazee Vergas Forum	

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General Reporting

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	Steele County Times	Blooming Prairie
2nd Place	Cottonwood County Citizen	Windom
3rd Place	Pine Knot News	Cloquet

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	Crystal/Robbinsdale/ New Hope/Golden Valley Sun Post	
2nd Place	The Globe	Worthington
3rd Place	The Ely Echo	

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	The Park Bugle	St. Paul
2nd Place	Minnetonka / Excelsior / Eden Prairie Sun Sailor	
3rd Place	Winona Post	

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	The Bemidji Pioneer	
2nd Place	Park Rapids Enterprise	
3rd Place	Detroit Lakes Tribune	

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	The Free Press	Mankato
2nd Place	Brainerd Dispatch	
3rd Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	Grand Forks Herald	
2nd Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester
3rd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead

Sports Reporting

Non-multi-day: up to 1,000

1st Place	Waseca County Pioneer	
2nd Place	The Observer/Advocate	Mountain Lake/Butterfield
3rd Place	Citizen's Advocate	Henning

Non-multi-day: 1,001 to 1,500

1st Place	Stillwater Gazette	
2nd Place	County News Review	Cambridge
3rd Place	Tracy Area Headlight Herald	

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	Steele County Times	Blooming Prairie
2nd Place	Pine Knot News	Cloquet
3rd Place	Anoka County Union Herald	Coon Rapids

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Sports Reporting

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	Edina Sun Current
2nd Place	Brooklyn Center/Brooklyn Park Sun Post
3rd Place	Blaine / Spring Lake Park / Columbia Heights / Fridley Life

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Bloomington / Richfield Sun Current	
2nd Place	Minnetonka / Excelsior / Eden Prairie Sun Sailor	
3rd Place	Fillmore County Journal	Preston

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	Detroit Lakes Tribune
2nd Place	The Bemidji Pioneer
3rd Place	Marshall Independent

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar
2nd Place	Brainerd Dispatch	
3rd Place	Alexandria Echo Press	

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	Duluth News Tribune	
2nd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead
3rd Place	Grand Forks Herald	

Use of Photography as a Whole

Non-multi-day: up to 1,000

1st Place	Sleepy Eye Herald-Dispatch	
2nd Place	Citizen's Advocate	Henning
3rd Place	The Observer/Advocate	Mountain Lake/Butterfield

Non-multi-day: 1,001 to 1,500

1st Place	Jackson County Pilot	
2nd Place	Henderson Independent	
3rd Place	Pine Journal	Cloquet

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	Cottonwood County Citizen	Windom
2nd Place	Pine Knot News	Cloquet
3rd Place	The Timberjay	Tower/Ely/Cook-Orr

2023-24 Better Newspaper Contest Winners

Use of Photography as a Whole

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	Lakes Area Review	New London/Spicer
2nd Place	The Ely Echo	
3rd Place	Plymouth / Wayzata Sun Sailor	

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Fillmore County Journal	Preston
2nd Place	Northeaster	Minneapolis
3rd Place	Southwest Connector	Minneapolis

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	Winona Daily News	
2nd Place	The Bemidji Pioneer	
3rd Place	Marshall Independent	

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar
2nd Place	The Free Press	Mankato
3rd Place	Alexandria Echo Press	

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester
2nd Place	Duluth News Tribune	
3rd Place	Grand Forks Herald	

Headline Writing

Non-multi-day: up to 1,500

1st Place	Tracy Area Headlight Herald	
2nd Place	Jackson County Pilot	
3rd Place	Henderson Independent	

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	Pine Knot News	Cloquet
2nd Place	Waconia Patriot	
3rd Place	Anoka County Union Herald	Coon Rapids

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	St. Cloud Live	
2nd Place	The Laker Pioneer	Mound / Long Lake
3rd Place	The Globe	Worthington

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Northeaster	Minneapolis
2nd Place	Morrison County Record	Little Falls
3rd Place	Fillmore County Journal	Preston

2023-24 Better Newspaper Contest Winners

Headline Writing

All Multi-day

1st Place	The Bemidji Pioneer	
2nd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead
3rd Place	Alexandria Echo Press	

Advertising Excellence

Non-multi-day: up to 1,500

1st Place	Tracy Area Headlight Herald	
2nd Place	Kittson County Enterprise	Hallock
3rd Place	Tri-County News	Kimball

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	Annandale Advocate	
2nd Place	Grant County Herald	Elbow Lake/Herman/Hoffman
3rd Place	Pineandlakes Echo Journal	Pequot Lakes

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	The Ely Echo	
2nd Place	Lakes Area Review	New London/Spicer
3rd Place	The Globe	Worthington

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Fillmore County Journal	Preston
2nd Place	Southwest Connector	Minneapolis
3rd Place	Northeaster	Minneapolis

All Multi-day

1st Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester
2nd Place	The Bemidji Pioneer	
3rd Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar

Classified Advertising Section

All Non-multi-day

1st Place	The Ely Echo	
2nd Place	Waseca County Pioneer	
3rd Place	The Observer/Advocate	Mountain Lake/Butterfield

All Multi-day

1st Place	Brainerd Dispatch	
2nd Place	Duluth News Tribune	
3rd Place	The Free Press	Mankato

Website

2023-24 Better Newspaper Contest Winners

Website

Non-multi-day: up to 3,000

1st Place	Pope County Tribune	Glenwood / Starbuck
2nd Place	Steele County Times	Blooming Prairie
3rd Place	Tri-County News	Kimball

Non-multi-day: over 3,001

1st Place	Fillmore County Journal	Preston
2nd Place	The Ely Echo	
3rd Place	White Bear Press	

All Multi-day

1st Place	Albert Lea Tribune	
2nd Place	The Daily Journal	Fergus Falls
3rd Place	The Free Press	Mankato

Advertising Campaign

All Non-multi-day

1st Place	Clara City Herald		Billie Jo Rassat
2nd Place	Pine Knot News	Cloquet	Ivan Hohnstadt, Peggy Day
3rd Place	Pine Journal	Cloquet	Scott Blatchford and Creative Team

All Multi-day

1st Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Danny Creel
2nd Place	Duluth News Tribune		Ali Carlson and Creative Team
3rd Place	Alexandria Echo Press		Gideon Morrow and staff

Institutional Advertising

Non-multi-day: up to 3,000

1st Place	Pelican Rapids Press		Nicole WK
2nd Place	The Kerkhoven Banner		Ted Almen
3rd Place	The Kerkhoven Banner		Ted Almen

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	The Globe	Worthington	Alisha Clausen, Kayla Carlson, Russell Zinke
2nd Place	The Globe	Worthington	Anna Rogers, Kayla Carlson, Rebekah Ness
3rd Place	The Globe	Worthington	Anna Rogers, Kayla Carlson, Katie Hastings

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	The Park Bugle	St. Paul	Eddie Hofmeister
2nd Place	The Park Bugle	St. Paul	Eddie Hofmeister
3rd Place	The Park Bugle	St. Paul	Eddie Hofmeister

All Multi-day

1st Place	Brainerd Dispatch		Susie Alters, Brenda Lawrence
2nd Place	Brainerd Dispatch		Susie Alters, Andy Goble
3rd Place	Austin Daily Herald		Heather Biwer

Self-promotion or House Ad

2023-24 Better Newspaper Contest Winners

Self-promotion or House Ad

Non-multi-day: up to 3,000

1st Place	Rock County Star Herald	Luverne	Heather Johnson
2nd Place	Jackson County Pilot		Justin R. Lessman
3rd Place	Perham Focus		Staff

Non-multi-day: over 3,001

1st Place	The Globe	Worthington	Anna Rogers, Kayla Carlson, Greg Beltz
2nd Place	The Park Bugle	St. Paul	Wendy Holdman

All Multi-day

1st Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Beth Krohn, Tessa Olive
2nd Place	Brainerd Dispatch		Susie Alters, Brenda Lawrence
3rd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	Kris Hauge

Use of Color in Advertising

Non-multi-day: up to 3,000

1st Place	The Timberjay	Tower/Ely/Cook-Orr	Scarlet Stone
2nd Place	Benton County News	Foley	Cheyenne Middendorf
3rd Place	LifeEnterprise	Waterville	Mike Mallow

Non-multi-day: over 3,001

1st Place	Northeaster	Minneapolis	Davis Steen
2nd Place	Winona Post		Linnea McColl
3rd Place	Winona Post		Monica Veraguth

All Multi-day

1st Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Beth Krohn
2nd Place	Brainerd Dispatch		Dan Determan, Brenda Lawrence, Rebekah Ness
3rd Place	Grand Forks Herald		Grand Forks Herald Advertising Team

Best Advertisement

Non-multi-day: up to 1,500

1st Place	The Kerkhoven Banner		Ted Almen
2nd Place	Canby News		Tricia Groenhoff
3rd Place	Springfield Advance-Press		Sally Anderson

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	Rock County Star Herald	Luverne	Heather Johnson, Rick Peterson
2nd Place	Sauk Centre Herald		Annika Gunderson
3rd Place	Sauk Centre Herald		Karen Knoblach

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	Sauk Rapids Herald		Maddy Peterson
2nd Place	The Globe	Worthington	Abi Fest, Kayla Carlson, Russell Zinke
3rd Place	The Globe	Worthington	Alisha Clausen, Kayla Carlson, Chris Johnson

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Best Advertisement

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Northeaster	Minneapolis	Davis Steen
2nd Place	The Park Bugle	St. Paul	Eddie Hofmeister
3rd Place	Winona Post		Jana Brinkman

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	Albert Lea Tribune		Renee Citsay
2nd Place	Albert Lea Tribune		Crystal Miller
3rd Place	Park Rapids Enterprise		Staff

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	Brainerd Dispatch		Susie Alters, Mollie Burlingame
2nd Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Jordan Greer-Friesz
3rd Place	Brainerd Dispatch		Stacey McSweeney, Katie Hastings, Mollie Burlingame

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	Duluth News Tribune		Ali Carlson and Creative Team
2nd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	Jamie Dettling
3rd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	David Jones

Online Advertising

Non-multi-day: up to 3,000

1st Place	Pine Journal	Cloquet	Ali Carlson and Creative Team
2nd Place	Pine Knot News	Cloquet	Ivan Hohnstadt
3rd Place	Perham Focus		Julie Lake, Tasha Kenyon

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	The Globe	Worthington	Anna Rogers, Dan Young
2nd Place	The Globe	Worthington	Anna Rogers
3rd Place	The Globe	Worthington	Anna Rogers

All Multi-day

1st Place	Duluth News Tribune		Scott Blatchford and Creative Team
2nd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	Staff
3rd Place	Brainerd Dispatch		Rylie Weber, Dan Young

Human Interest Story

Non-multi-day: up to 1,000

1st Place	Monticello Times		Lauren Flaum
2nd Place	Tyler Tribute		Mark Wilmes
3rd Place	Osseo/Maple Grove/Champlin/ Dayton Press		Alicia Miller

Non-multi-day: 1,001 to 1,500

1st Place	Kittson County Enterprise	Hallock	Anna Jauhola
2nd Place	Union-Times	Princeton/Milaca	Jeffrey Hage
3rd Place	Waseca County News		Lucas Dittmer

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Human Interest Story

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	The Timberjay	Tower/Ely/Cook-Orr	David Colburn
2nd Place	Steele County Times	Blooming Prairie	Rick Bussler
3rd Place	Pine Knot News	Cloquet	Jana Peterson, Mike Creger

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	Sauk Rapids Herald		Tom Fenton
2nd Place	St. Louis Park / Hopkins Sun Sailor		Natalie Cierzan
3rd Place	St. Cloud Live		Stephanie Dickrell

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Minnetonka / Excelsior / Eden Prairie Sun Sailor		Kaitlin McCoskey
2nd Place	Minnesota Women's Press	Minneapolis	Mikki Morrisette
3rd Place	Northeaster	Minneapolis	Cynthia Sowden

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	Faribault Daily News		Colton Kemp
2nd Place	Albert Lea Tribune		Sarah Stultz
3rd Place	Park Rapids Enterprise		Shannon Geisen

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Brian Arola
2nd Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar	Tom Cherveney
3rd Place	Brainerd Dispatch		Theresa Bourke

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	Melissa Van Der Stad
2nd Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Matthew Stolle
3rd Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	John Molseed

Human Interest Story - Personality Feature/Profile

Non-multi-day: up to 1,000

1st Place	Sleepy Eye Herald-Dispatch		Dave Forster
2nd Place	Minneota Mascot		Scott Thoma
3rd Place	Osseo/Maple Grove/Champlin/Dayton Press		Alicia Miller

Non-multi-day: 1,001 to 1,500

1st Place	Forest Lake Times		Hannah Davis
2nd Place	Union-Times	Princeton/Milaca	Chloe Smith
3rd Place	Union-Times	Princeton/Milaca	Chloe Smith

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	Faribault County Register	Blue Earth	Chuck Hunt
2nd Place	Steele County Times	Blooming Prairie	Rick Bussler
3rd Place	Anoka County Union Herald	Coon Rapids	Matt DeBow

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Human Interest Story - Personality Feature/Profile

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	Brooklyn Center/Brooklyn Park Sun Post	Alaina Rooker
2nd Place	St. Cloud Live	Stephanie Dickrell
3rd Place	Plymouth / Wayzata Sun Sailor	John Sherman

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Sartell-St. Stephen Newsleader	Madison Evans
2nd Place	Minnetonka / Excelsior / Eden Prairie Sun Sailor	Natalie Cierzan
3rd Place	Midway Como Frogtown Monitor St. Paul	Jan Willms

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	Wendy Reuer
2nd Place	Duluth News Tribune		Teri Cadeau
3rd Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Brian Todd

Human Interest Story - News Feature

Non-multi-day: up to 1,000

1st Place	Monticello Times	Jeffrey Hage
2nd Place	Montgomery Messenger	Jarrod Schoenecker
3rd Place	Minneota Mascot	Scott Thoma

Non-multi-day: 1,001 to 1,500

1st Place	Forest Lake Times	Hannah Davis
2nd Place	Wadena Pioneer Journal	Nicole Stracek
3rd Place	Forest Lake Times	Hannah Davis

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	Steele County Times	Blooming Prairie	Johnnie Phillips
2nd Place	Pine Knot News	Cloquet	Brady Slater
3rd Place	Caledonia Argus		Rose Korabek

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	The Laker Pioneer	Mound / Long Lake	Emma Lohman
2nd Place	Sauk Rapids Herald		Emily Breth
3rd Place	The Ely Echo		Tom Coombe

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Star News	Elk River	Jim Boyle
2nd Place	The Park Bugle	St. Paul	Christie Vogt
3rd Place	White Bear Press		Erik Suchy

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	Albert Lea Tribune	Sarah Stultz
2nd Place	Albert Lea Tribune	Ayanna Eckblad
3rd Place	Austin Daily Herald	Eric Johnson

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Human Interest Story - News Feature

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	Mesabi Tribune	Hibbing/Virginia	Linda Tyssen
2nd Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar	Tom Cherveney
3rd Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Mike Lagerquist

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Brian Todd
2nd Place	Grand Forks Herald		Joshua Irvine
3rd Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Rebecca Mitchell

Social Issues Story

Non-multi-day: up to 1,000

1st Place	Osseo/Maple Grove/Champlin/ Dayton Press		Alicia Miller
2nd Place	Waseca County Pioneer		Debra Bently
3rd Place	Crow River News	St. Michael/Albertville	Jessica Charpentier

Non-multi-day: 1,001 to 1,500

1st Place	Forest Lake Times		Hannah Davis
2nd Place	Forest Lake Times		Hannah Davis
3rd Place	Kittson County Enterprise	Hallock	Anna Jauhola

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	Northfield News		Pamela Thompson
2nd Place	Anoka County Union Herald	Coon Rapids	Ian Wreisner
3rd Place	Steele County Times	Blooming Prairie	Kay Fate, Rick Bussler

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	The Globe	Worthington	Julie Buntjer
2nd Place	St. Cloud Live		Trent Abrego
3rd Place	The Hugo Citizen		Shannon Granholm

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Isanti-Chisago County Star	Cambridge	Stacy Verdick Case
2nd Place	Northeaster	Minneapolis	Marla Khan-Schwartz
3rd Place	Midway Como Frogtown Monitor	St. Paul	Jan Willms

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	Faribault Daily News		Colton Kemp
2nd Place	Albert Lea Tribune		Ayanna Eckblad
3rd Place	Winona Daily News		Rachel Mergen

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar	Tom Cherveney
2nd Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Brian Arola
3rd Place	Brainerd Dispatch		Tim Speier

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Social Issues Story

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	Duluth News Tribune		Tom Olsen
2nd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	Tasha Carvell
3rd Place	Grand Forks Herald		Sav Kelly

Sports Story

Non-multi-day: up to 1,000

1st Place	Waseca County Pioneer		Jim Lutgens, Elijah Lutgens
2nd Place	Le Sueur County News	LeCenter	Ben Camp
3rd Place	Waseca County Pioneer		Elijah Lutgens

Non-multi-day: 1,001 to 1,500

1st Place	Jackson County Pilot		Dan Condon
2nd Place	Pine Journal	Cloquet	Reagan Hoverman
3rd Place	Jackson County Pilot		Dan Condon

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	Pine Knot News	Cloquet	Brady Slater
2nd Place	Pine Knot News	Cloquet	Brady Slater and Mike Creger
3rd Place	Pine Knot News	Cloquet	Jana Peterson

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	Sauk Rapids Herald		Tom Fenton
2nd Place	Edina Sun Current		John Sherman
3rd Place	St. Cloud Live		Andy Rennecke

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Star News	Elk River	Erik Nelson
2nd Place	Bloomington / Richfield Sun Current		Jason Olson
3rd Place	The Park Bugle	St. Paul	Eric Erickson

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	The Bemidji Pioneer		Jared Rubado
2nd Place	The Bemidji Pioneer		Jared Rubado
3rd Place	Austin Daily Herald		Rocky Hulne

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Chad Courier
2nd Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar	Michael Lyne
3rd Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar	Joe Brown

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Jason Feldman
2nd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	Eric Peterson
3rd Place	Grand Forks Herald		Brad Schlossman

Sports Feature Story

2023-24 Better Newspaper Contest Winners

Sports Feature Story

Non-multi-day: up to 1,000

1st Place	Waseca County Pioneer		Jim Lutgens
2nd Place	Waseca County Pioneer		Elijah Lutgens
3rd Place	Lake County Press	Two Harbors	Staff

Non-multi-day: 1,001 to 1,500

1st Place	Jackson County Pilot		Dan Condon
2nd Place	Pine Journal	Cloquet	Reagan Hoverman
3rd Place	Forest Lake Times		Hannah Davis

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	Wright County Journal-Press	Buffalo	Robert LaPlante
2nd Place	Pelican Rapids Press		Louis Hoglund
3rd Place	Pelican Rapids Press		Louis Hoglund

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	Sauk Rapids Herald		Tom Fenton
2nd Place	Sauk Rapids Herald		Tom Fenton
3rd Place	Sauk Rapids Herald		Tom Fenton

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	The Park Bugle	St. Paul	Eric Erickson
2nd Place	Northeaster	Minneapolis	Davis Steen
3rd Place	The Park Bugle	St. Paul	Bill Brady

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	The Bemidji Pioneer		Jared Rubado
2nd Place	The Bemidji Pioneer		Alex Faber
3rd Place	Detroit Lakes Tribune		Cooper Kanthak

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Robb Murray
2nd Place	Alexandria Echo Press		Jake Sutherlin
3rd Place	Brainerd Dispatch		Jeremy Millsop

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Jason Feldman
2nd Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Alex VandenHouten
3rd Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Pat Ruff

Business Story

Non-multi-day: Up to 3,000

1st Place	Pineandlakes Echo Journal	Pequot Lakes	Travis Grimler
2nd Place	Pine Knot News	Cloquet	Jana Peterson
3rd Place	Steele County Times	Blooming Prairie	Joni Hubred

2023-24 Better Newspaper Contest Winners

Business Story

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	Lakes Area Review	New London/Spicer	Brett Blocker
2nd Place	Plymouth / Wayzata Sun Sailor		Kaitlin McCoskey
3rd Place	Lakes Area Review	New London/Spicer	Ralph Dickerson

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Star News	Elk River	Jim Boyle
2nd Place	Star News	Elk River	Jim Boyle
3rd Place	Bloomington / Richfield Sun Current		Mike Hanks

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	The Daily Journal	Fergus Falls	James Allen
2nd Place	Owatonna People's Press		Annie Harman
3rd Place	The Daily Journal	Fergus Falls	Karrie Carlson

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Mike Lagerquist
2nd Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar	Shelby Lindrud
3rd Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Tim Krohn

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	Tammy Swift
2nd Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Brian Todd
3rd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	April Baumgarten

Business Profile

Non-multi-day: up to 1,000

1st Place	New York Mills Dispatch		Chad Koenen
2nd Place	Le Sueur County News	LeCenter	Carson Hughes
3rd Place	Sleepy Eye Herald-Dispatch		Dave Forster

Non-multi-day: 1,001 to 1,500

1st Place	Forest Lake Times		Hannah Davis
2nd Place	Pine Journal	Cloquet	Macklin Caruso
3rd Place	Forest Lake Times		Hannah Davis

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	Pine Knot News	Cloquet	Jana Peterson
2nd Place	The Timberjay	Tower/Ely/Cook-Orr	David Colburn
3rd Place	Northfield News		Pamela Thompson

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	St. Cloud Live		Trent Abrego
2nd Place	Crystal/Robbinsdale/ New Hope/Golden Valley Sun Post		Anja Wuolu
3rd Place	The Ely Echo		Parker Loew, Nick Wognum

2023-24 Better Newspaper Contest Winners

Business Profile

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Isanti-Chisago County Star	Cambridge	Stacy Verdick Case
2nd Place	Southwest Connector	Minneapolis	Tesha M. Christensen
3rd Place	The Park Bugle	St. Paul	Anne Holzman

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	Faribault Daily News		Colton Kemp
2nd Place	Winona Daily News		Rachel Mergen
3rd Place	Albert Lea Tribune		Sarah Stultz

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar	Levi Jones
2nd Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar	Shelby Lindrud
3rd Place	Brainerd Dispatch		Caroline Julstrom

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	Tracy Briggs
2nd Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Jeff Kiger
3rd Place	Duluth News Tribune		John Myers

Arts & Entertainment Story

Non-multi-day: up to 1,000

1st Place	Waseca County Pioneer		Debra Bently
2nd Place	Le Sueur County News	LeCenter	Carson Hughes
3rd Place	New York Mills Dispatch		Tucker Henderson

Non-multi-day: 1,001 to 1,500

1st Place	Pine Journal	Cloquet	Macklin Caruso
2nd Place	Jackson County Pilot		Justin R. Lessman
3rd Place	Jackson County Pilot		Justin R. Lessman

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	Pineandlakes Echo Journal	Pequot Lakes	Nancy Vogt
2nd Place	Pelican Rapids Press		Louis Hogleund
3rd Place	Pine Knot News	Cloquet	Jana Peterson

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	St. Cloud Live		Stephanie Dickrell
2nd Place	St. Louis Park / Hopkins Sun Sailor		Natalie Cierzan
3rd Place	The Globe	Worthington	Sam Martin

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Northeaster	Minneapolis	Katherine Boyce
2nd Place	Northeaster	Minneapolis	Staff
3rd Place	Northeaster	Minneapolis	Mike Madison

2023-24 Better Newspaper Contest Winners

Arts & Entertainment Story

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	Faribault Daily News		Colton Kemp
2nd Place	Park Rapids Enterprise		Robin Fish
3rd Place	Owatonna People's Press		Annie Harman

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Robb Murray
2nd Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Ashley Opina
3rd Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Robb Murray

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	John Lamb
2nd Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	John Molseed
3rd Place	Grand Forks Herald		Joshua Irvine

Local Breaking News Coverage

Non-multi-day: up to 1,500

1st Place	Union-Times	Princeton/Milaca	Jeffrey Hage
2nd Place	Jackson County Pilot		Justin R. Lessman
3rd Place	Le Sueur County News	LeCenter	Carson Hughes

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	The Star Post	Melrose	Carol Moorman
2nd Place	Steele County Times	Blooming Prairie	Alex Malm
3rd Place	Cottonwood County Citizen	Windom	Joel Alvstad

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	St. Louis Park / Hopkins Sun Sailor		Natalie Cierzan
2nd Place	The Globe	Worthington	Julie Buntjer
3rd Place	Lakes Area Review	New London/Spicer	Brett Blocker

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Northeastern	Minneapolis	Cynthia Sowden, Al Zdon
2nd Place	Northeastern	Minneapolis	Cynthia Sowden
3rd Place	The Park Bugle	St. Paul	Mary Mergenthal

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	The Bemidji Pioneer		Nicole Ronchetti
2nd Place	Albert Lea Tribune		Sarah Stultz
3rd Place	Faribault Daily News		Colton Kemp

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Staff
2nd Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Staff
3rd Place	Brainerd Dispatch		Tim Speier

2023-24 Better Newspaper Contest Winners

Local Breaking News Coverage

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	April Baumgarten
2nd Place	Duluth News Tribune		Jimmy Lovrien, Clint Austin, Wyatt Buckner
3rd Place	Grand Forks Herald		Sav Kelly

Hard News Reporting

Non-multi-day: up to 1,000

1st Place	Le Sueur County News	LeCenter	Carson Hughes
2nd Place	The Kerkhoven Banner		Kari Jo Almen
3rd Place	The Kerkhoven Banner		Kari Jo Almen

Non-multi-day: 1,001 to 1,500

1st Place	St. Peter Herald		Carson Hughes
2nd Place	Star-Gazette	Moose Lake	Jamie Lund
3rd Place	Jackson County Pilot		Justin R. Lessman

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	Steele County Times	Blooming Prairie	Rick Bussler
2nd Place	The Timberjay	Tower/Ely/Cook-Orr	Marshall Helmberger
3rd Place	Rock County Star Herald	Luverne	Mavis Fodness

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	The Ely Echo		Parker Loew
2nd Place	Blaine / Spring Lake Park / Columbia Heights / Fridley Life		Ian Wreisner
3rd Place	Sauk Rapids Herald		Tim Hennagir

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Northeaster	Minneapolis	Cynthia Sowden
2nd Place	Morrison County Record	Little Falls	Jeffrey Hage
3rd Place	Northeaster	Minneapolis	Al Zdon

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	St. Paul Legal Ledger - Minnesota Lawyer		Laura Brown
2nd Place	The Bemidji Pioneer		Daltyn Lofstrom
3rd Place	Detroit Lakes Tribune		Nathan Bowe

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Holly Marie Moore
2nd Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Staff
3rd Place	Brainerd Dispatch		Renee Richardson

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	Grand Forks Herald		Sav Kelly
2nd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	April Baumgarten
3rd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	Patrick Springer

Hard News - Coverage of Court/Crime

2023-24 Better Newspaper Contest Winners

Hard News - Coverage of Court/Crime

Non-multi-day: up to 1,500

1st Place	Pine Journal	Cloquet	Tom Olsen
2nd Place	Pine Journal	Cloquet	Jamey Malcomb and Macklin Caruso
3rd Place	Waseca County Pioneer		Elijah Lutgens

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	Pine Knot News	Cloquet	Jana Peterson
2nd Place	Steele County Times	Blooming Prairie	Kay Fate, Rick Bussler
3rd Place	Kanabec County Times	Mora	Hope Murray

Non-multi-day: over 3,001

1st Place	Lakes Area Review	New London/Spicer	Brett Blocker
2nd Place	Blaine / Spring Lake Park / Columbia Heights / Fridley Life		Matt DeBow
3rd Place	The Laker Pioneer	Mound / Long Lake	Max Kappel

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	Owatonna People's Press		Annie Harman
2nd Place	Winona Daily News		Rachel Mergen
3rd Place	Detroit Lakes Tribune		Nathan Bowe

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Mark Fischenich and Brian Arola
2nd Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Brian Arola
3rd Place	Brainerd Dispatch		Renee Richardson and Tim Speier

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Mark Wasson
2nd Place	Grand Forks Herald		Sav Kelly
3rd Place	Duluth News Tribune		Tom Olsen

Investigative Reporting

Non-multi-day: up to 3,000

1st Place	Steele County Times	Blooming Prairie	Kay Fate, Rick Bussler, Joni Hubred
2nd Place	The Timberjay	Tower/Ely/Cook-Orr	Marshall Helmberger
3rd Place	Sleepy Eye Herald-Dispatch		Dave Forster

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Isanti-Chisago County Star	Cambridge	Stacy Verdick Case
2nd Place	Winona Post		Gabriel Hathaway
3rd Place	Northeaster	Minneapolis	Cynthia Sowden

Multi-day: up to 10,000

1st Place	The Bemidji Pioneer		Annalise Braught, Madelyn Haasken
2nd Place	Owatonna People's Press		Annie Harman
3rd Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar	Jennifer Kotila

2023-24 Better Newspaper Contest Winners

Investigative Reporting

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	Grand Forks Herald		Sav Kelly, Matthew Voigt
2nd Place	Duluth News Tribune		Jimmy Lovrien
3rd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	Melissa Van Der Stad

Columnist

Non-multi-day: up to 1,000

1st Place	Minneota Mascot		Scott Thoma
2nd Place	New York Mills Dispatch		Tucker Henderson
3rd Place	The Kerkhoven Banner		Ted Almen

Non-multi-day: 1,001 to 1,500

1st Place	Benton County News	Foley	Hans Lammeman
2nd Place	County News Review	Cambridge	John Wagner
3rd Place	Swift County Monitor-News	Benson	Reed Anfinson

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	Steele County Times	Blooming Prairie	Rick Bussler
2nd Place	Pine Knot News	Cloquet	Parnell Thill
3rd Place	Faribault County Register	Blue Earth	Kevin Mertens

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	Crystal/Robbinsdale/ New Hope/Golden Valley Sun Post		Anja Wuolu
2nd Place	The Ely Echo		Tom Coombe
3rd Place	Blaine / Spring Lake Park / Columbia Heights / Fridley Life		Matt DeBow

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Winona Post		Chris Rogers
2nd Place	Southwest Connector	Minneapolis	Eric Ortiz
3rd Place	Sartell-St. Stephen Newsleader		Dennis Dalman

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	The Bemidji Pioneer		Jared Rubado
2nd Place	The Daily Journal	Fergus Falls	Heather Kantrud
3rd Place	The Daily Journal	Fergus Falls	Karrie Carlson

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	Alexandria Echo Press		Jake Sutherlin
2nd Place	Alexandria Echo Press		Celeste Edenloff
3rd Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar	Kelly Boldan

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	Jessie Veeder
2nd Place	Grand Forks Herald		Chuck Haga
3rd Place	Duluth News Tribune		Jay Gabler

Photography News Photo

2023-24 Better Newspaper Contest Winners

Photography News Photo

Non-multi-day: up to 1,000

1st Place	Waseca County Pioneer		Elijah Lutgens
2nd Place	Waseca County Pioneer		Elijah Lutgens
3rd Place	Lake County Press	Two Harbors	Terry Gydesen

Non-multi-day: 1,001 to 1,500

1st Place	Jackson County Pilot		Dan Condon
2nd Place	Jackson County Pilot		Justin R. Lessman
3rd Place	Pine Journal	Cloquet	Jed Carlson

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	Cottonwood County Citizen	Windom	Trevor Slette
2nd Place	Steele County Times	Blooming Prairie	Rick Bussler
3rd Place	Pine Knot News	Cloquet	Jana Peterson

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	Lakes Area Review	New London/Spicer	Brett Blocker
2nd Place	The Globe	Worthington	Tim Middagh
3rd Place	St. Louis Park / Hopkins Sun Sailor		Andy Rogers

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Midway Como Frogtown Monitor	St. Paul	Tesha M. Christensen
2nd Place	Midway Como Frogtown Monitor	St. Paul	Terbutto Ochothow
3rd Place	Minnetonka / Excelsior / Eden Prairie Sun Sailor		Natalie Cierzan

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	Albert Lea Tribune		Sarah Stultz
2nd Place	The Bemidji Pioneer		Annalise Braught
3rd Place	The Bemidji Pioneer		Madelyn Haasken

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	Brainerd Dispatch		Steve Kohls
2nd Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Casey Ek
3rd Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar	Macy Moore

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	Alyssa Goelzer
2nd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	David Samson
3rd Place	Duluth News Tribune		Jed Carlson

Photography Sports Photo

Non-multi-day: up to 1,000

1st Place	Sleepy Eye Herald-Dispatch		Dave Forster
2nd Place	Tyler Tribute		Mark Wilmes
3rd Place	The Observer/Advocate	Mountain Lake/Butterfield	Joel Alvstad

2023-24 Better Newspaper Contest Winners

Photography Sports Photo

Non-multi-day: 1,001 to 1,500

1st Place	Pine Journal	Cloquet	Amy Arntson
2nd Place	Forest Lake Times		Hannah Davis
3rd Place	Tracy Area Headlight Herald		Per Peterson

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	Pine Knot News	Cloquet	Dave Harwig
2nd Place	The Timberjay	Tower/Ely/Cook-Orr	David Colburn
3rd Place	Steele County Times	Blooming Prairie	Johnnie Phillips

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	Edina Sun Current		John Sherman
2nd Place	The Globe	Worthington	Tim Middagh
3rd Place	St. Louis Park / Hopkins Sun Sailor		John Sherman

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Isanti-Chisago County Star	Cambridge	Dee Ann Sibley
2nd Place	Isanti-Chisago County Star	Cambridge	Dee Ann Sibley
3rd Place	Isanti-Chisago County Star	Cambridge	Bill Stickels III

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	The Journal	New Ulm	Travis Rosenau
2nd Place	The Journal	New Ulm	Travis Rosenau
3rd Place	Park Rapids Enterprise		Vance Carlson

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar	Macy Moore
2nd Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Casey Ek
3rd Place	Alexandria Echo Press		Sam Stuve

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	David Samson
2nd Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Lily Dozier
3rd Place	Grand Forks Herald		Eric Hylden

Photography Feature Photo

Non-multi-day: up to 1,000

1st Place	Sleepy Eye Herald-Dispatch		Dave Forster
2nd Place	Tyler Tribute		Mark Wilmes
3rd Place	Lake Benton Valley Journal		Kristina Hernandez

Non-multi-day: 1,001 to 1,500

1st Place	Maple Lake Messenger		Brenda Erdahl
2nd Place	Jackson County Pilot		Dan Condon
3rd Place	Henderson Independent		Rachel Miller

2023-24 Better Newspaper Contest Winners

Photography Feature Photo

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	Pope County Tribune	Glenwood / Starbuck	Tim Douglass
2nd Place	The Mille Lacs Messenger	Isle	Erik James Jacobson
3rd Place	Steele County Times	Blooming Prairie	Kay Fate

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	Brooklyn Center/Brooklyn Park Sun Post		Jack Wiedner
2nd Place	St. Louis Park / Hopkins Sun Sailor		Natalie Cierzan
3rd Place	The Ely Echo		Tara Kay Larsen

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Sartell-St. Stephen Newsleader		Carolyn Bertsch
2nd Place	Sartell-St. Stephen Newsleader		Carolyn Bertsch
3rd Place	Bloomington / Richfield Sun Current		Alaina Rooker

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	The Bemidji Pioneer		Madelyn Haasken
2nd Place	The Bemidji Pioneer		Annalise Braught
3rd Place	The Bemidji Pioneer		Annalise Braught

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Casey Ek
2nd Place	Brainerd Dispatch		Steve Kohls
3rd Place	Brainerd Dispatch		Steve Kohls

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Joe Ahlquist
2nd Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Joe Ahlquist
3rd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	David Samson

Photography Photo Story

Non-multi-day: up to 1,000

1st Place	The Kerkhoven Banner		Ted Almen
2nd Place	Monticello Times		Jeffrey Hage
3rd Place	The Kerkhoven Banner		Ted Almen

Non-multi-day: 1,001 to 1,500

1st Place	Forest Lake Times		Hannah Davis
2nd Place	Jackson County Pilot		Dan Condon
3rd Place	Jackson County Pilot		Staff

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	Anoka County Union Herald	Coon Rapids	Matt DeBow
2nd Place	The Timberjay	Tower/Ely/Cook-Orr	Marshall Helmberger
3rd Place	Pope County Tribune	Glenwood / Starbuck	Tim Douglass

2023-24 Better Newspaper Contest Winners

Photography Photo Story

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	Blaine / Spring Lake Park / Columbia Heights / Fridley Life		Matt DeBow
2nd Place	Sauk Rapids Herald		Natasha Barber
3rd Place	Plymouth / Wayzata Sun Sailor		John Sherman

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Isanti-Chisago County Star	Cambridge	Dee Ann Sibley
2nd Place	Isanti-Chisago County Star	Cambridge	Dee Ann Sibley
3rd Place	Minnetonka / Excelsior / Eden Prairie Sun Sailor		Natalie Cierzan

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	The Bemidji Pioneer		Annalise Braught
2nd Place	The Bemidji Pioneer		Annalise Braught
3rd Place	Albert Lea Tribune		Sarah Stultz

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Casey Ek
2nd Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar	Macy Moore
3rd Place	Brainerd Dispatch		Kelly Humphrey

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Maya Giron
2nd Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Joe Ahlquist
3rd Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Maya Giron

Photography Portrait and Personality

Non-multi-day: up to 1,000

1st Place	Sleepy Eye Herald-Dispatch		Dave Forster
2nd Place	Minneota Mascot		Scott Thoma
3rd Place	Lake County Press	Two Harbors	Terry Gydesen

Non-multi-day: 1,001 to 1,500

1st Place	Maple Lake Messenger		Brenda Erdahl
2nd Place	Jackson County Pilot		Dan Condon
3rd Place	Jackson County Pilot		Justin R. Lessman

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	Pineandlakes Echo Journal	Pequot Lakes	Travis Grimler
2nd Place	News-Record	Zumbrota	Faye Haugen
3rd Place	Pine Knot News	Cloquet	Mike Creger

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	Plymouth / Wayzata Sun Sailor		John Sherman
2nd Place	Brooklyn Center/Brooklyn Park Sun Post		Jason Jenkins
3rd Place	Edina Sun Current		Alaina Rooker

2023-24 Better Newspaper Contest Winners

Photography Portrait and Personality

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Minnetonka / Excelsior / Eden Prairie Sun Sailor		John Sherman
2nd Place	Midway Como Frogtown Monitor	St. Paul	Terbutto Ochothow
3rd Place	Minnesota Women's Press	Minneapolis	Sarah Whiting

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	The Bemidji Pioneer		Annalise Braught
2nd Place	The Bemidji Pioneer		Charley Gilbert
3rd Place	Austin Daily Herald		Eric Johnson

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar	Macy Moore
2nd Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar	Macy Moore
3rd Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Casey Ek

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	David Samson
2nd Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Joe Ahlquist
3rd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	David Samson

Press Photographer's Portfolio

All Non-multi-day

1st Place	Steele County Times	Blooming Prairie	Johnnie Phillips
2nd Place	Sleepy Eye Herald-Dispatch		Dave Forster
3rd Place	Jackson County Pilot		Dan Condon

All Multi-day

1st Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Maya Giron
2nd Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar	Macy Moore
3rd Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Joe Ahlquist

Use of Infographics/Illustrations

Non-multi-day: up to 3,000

1st Place	Rock County Star Herald	Luverne	Heather Johnson
2nd Place	Jackson County Pilot		Justin R. Lessman
3rd Place	Rock County Star Herald	Luverne	Brooke Huisman

Non-multi-day: over 3,001

1st Place	St. Cloud Live		Marcy Nickel
2nd Place	Isanti-Chisago County Star	Cambridge	Stacy Verdick Case
3rd Place	Longfellow Nokomis Messenger	Minneapolis	Tesha M. Christensen

All Multi-day

1st Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	Troy Becker
2nd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	Troy Becker
3rd Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Becca Larson

Editorial Portfolio

2023-24 Better Newspaper Contest Winners

Editorial Portfolio

All Non-multi-day

1st Place	Jackson County Pilot		Justin R. Lessman
2nd Place	The Timberjay	Tower/Ely/Cook-Orr	Marshall Helmberger
3rd Place	Steele County Times	Blooming Prairie	Joni Hubred

All Multi-day

1st Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Staff
2nd Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Staff
3rd Place	Grand Forks Herald		Korrie Wenzel

Design Portfolio

All Non-multi-day

1st Place	Rock County Star Herald	Luverne	Greg Hoogeveen
2nd Place	The Kerkhoven Banner		Staff
3rd Place	Henderson Independent		Rachel Miller

All Multi-day

1st Place	Duluth News Tribune		Becca Larson
2nd Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar	Marcy Nickel
3rd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	Emma Santee

Special Section

Non-multi-day: up to 3,000

1st Place	Barnesville Record-Review		Staff
2nd Place	Springfield Advance-Press		Staff
3rd Place	Maple Lake Messenger		Staff

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	The Ely Echo		Nick Wognum, Tom Coombe, Doug Luthanen, Mike Turnbull
2nd Place	The Globe	Worthington	Staff
3rd Place	Sauk Rapids Herald		Tim Hennagir, Tom Fenton, Amanda Thooft

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Fillmore County Journal	Preston	Sara Mensink, Tessia Wangsness
2nd Place	Fillmore County Journal	Preston	Sara Mensink, Tessia Wangsness
3rd Place	White Bear Press		Staff

All Multi-day

1st Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Staff
2nd Place	Park Rapids Enterprise		Staff
3rd Place	Austin Daily Herald		Staff

Best Magazine

All Non-multi-day

1st Place	Pope County Tribune	Glenwood / Starbuck
2nd Place	Sleepy Eye Herald-Dispatch	
3rd Place	Rock County Star Herald	Luverne

2023-24 Better Newspaper Contest Winners

Best Magazine

All Multi-day

1st Place	Brainerd Dispatch	
2nd Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester
3rd Place	Grand Forks Herald	

Best Magazine Design

All Non-multi-day

1st Place	Pope County Tribune	Glenwood / Starbuck
2nd Place	Pineandlakes Echo Journal	Pequot Lakes
3rd Place	Pineandlakes Echo Journal	Pequot Lakes

All Multi-day

1st Place	The Bemidji Pioneer
2nd Place	Brainerd Dispatch
3rd Place	Brainerd Dispatch

Best Magazine Cover

All Non-multi-day

1st Place	Pineandlakes Echo Journal	Pequot Lakes
2nd Place	Pineandlakes Echo Journal	Pequot Lakes
3rd Place	The Timberjay	Tower/Ely/Cook-Orr

All Multi-day

1st Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar
2nd Place	The Bemidji Pioneer	
3rd Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester

Best Magazine Article

All Non-multi-day

1st Place	Minnesota Women's Press	Minneapolis	Mikki Morrissette
2nd Place	Faribault County Register	Blue Earth	Chuck Hunt
3rd Place	Pineandlakes Echo Journal	Pequot Lakes	Tim Speier

All Multi-day

1st Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Steve Lange
2nd Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar	Shelby Lindrud
3rd Place	Brainerd Dispatch		DeLynn Howard

Best Magazine Photography

All Non-multi-day

1st Place	Minnesota Women's Press	Minneapolis	Sarah Whiting
2nd Place	Minnesota Women's Press	Minneapolis	Sarah Whiting
3rd Place	Pineandlakes Echo Journal	Pequot Lakes	Kelly Humphrey

All Multi-day

1st Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Joe Ahlquist
2nd Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Joe Ahlquist
3rd Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Maya Giron

2023-24 Better Newspaper Contest Winners

Magazine Use of Photography as a Whole

All Non-multi-day

1st Place	Pope County Tribune	Glenwood / Starbuck
2nd Place	Pineandlakes Echo Journal	Pequot Lakes
3rd Place	Lakes Area Review	New London/Spicer

All Multi-day

1st Place	Albert Lea Tribune	
2nd Place	The Free Press	Mankato
3rd Place	Brainerd Dispatch	

Magazine General Reporting

All Non-multi-day

1st Place	Pineandlakes Echo Journal	Pequot Lakes
2nd Place	Pineandlakes Echo Journal	Pequot Lakes
3rd Place	Pope County Tribune	Glenwood / Starbuck

All Multi-day

1st Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester
2nd Place	The Bemidji Pioneer	
3rd Place	The Free Press	Mankato

Best Use of Video

All Non-multi-day

1st Place	Isanti-Chisago County Star	Cambridge	Bill Stickels III, Stacy Verdick Case
2nd Place	Pine Journal	Cloquet	Dan Williamson
3rd Place	The Ely Echo		Pam Roberts

All Multi-day

1st Place	Duluth News Tribune		Dan Williamson
2nd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	Chris Flynn
3rd Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Casey Ek

Best Use of Multimedia

Non-multi-day: up to 3,000

1st Place	Pine Journal	Cloquet	Dan Williamson
2nd Place	Pine Journal	Cloquet	Dan Williamson
3rd Place	Pineandlakes Echo Journal	Pequot Lakes	Staff

Non-multi-day: over 3,001

1st Place	The Ely Echo		Nick Wognum, Tom Coombe
2nd Place	The Ely Echo		Nick Wognum, Tom Coombe
3rd Place	The Ely Echo		Nick Wognum, Tom Coombe

All Multi-day

1st Place	Duluth News Tribune		Wyatt Buckner, Jay Gabler
2nd Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Casey Ek
3rd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	Robin Huebner, Chris Flynn

Best Use of Social Media

2023-24 Better Newspaper Contest Winners

Best Use of Social Media

Non-multi-day: up to 3,000

1st Place	Jackson County Pilot		Staff
2nd Place	Pine Knot News	Cloquet	Ivan Hohnstadt
3rd Place	Jackson County Pilot		Dan Condon

Non-multi-day: over 3,001

1st Place	The Park Bugle	St. Paul	Laura Adrian
2nd Place	The Ely Echo		Staff
3rd Place	Sauk Rapids Herald		Annika Gunderson

All Multi-day

1st Place	Brainerd Dispatch		Conrad Engstrom
2nd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	Tracy Briggs, Kate Almquist
3rd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	Chris Flynn, Kate Almquist

Government/Public Affairs Reporting

Non-multi-day: up to 1,000

1st Place	The Kerkhoven Banner		Ted Almen
2nd Place	Crow River News	St. Michael/Albertville	Jessica Charpentier
3rd Place	Crow River News	St. Michael/Albertville	Jessica Charpentier

Non-multi-day: 1,001 to 1,500

1st Place	Perham Focus		Tris Anderson
2nd Place	Pine Journal	Cloquet	Macklin Caruso
3rd Place	Wadena Pioneer Journal		Frank Lee

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	Steele County Times	Blooming Prairie	Kay Fate
2nd Place	Pine Knot News	Cloquet	Brady Slater
3rd Place	Anoka County Union Herald	Coon Rapids	Ian Wreisner

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	The Globe	Worthington	Stewart Chisham
2nd Place	St. Cloud Live		Stephanie Dickrell
3rd Place	Crystal/Robbinsdale/ New Hope/Golden Valley Sun Post		Anja Wuolu

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Northeastern	Minneapolis	Staff
2nd Place	Northeastern	Minneapolis	Al Zdon
3rd Place	Isanti-Chisago County Star	Cambridge	Bill Stickels III, Molly Whelan

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	The Bemidji Pioneer		Nicole Ronchetti
2nd Place	Finance & Commerce	Minneapolis	Dan Netter
3rd Place	Detroit Lakes Tribune		Nathan Bowe

2023-24 Better Newspaper Contest Winners

Government/Public Affairs Reporting

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	West Central Tribune	Willmar	Jennifer Kotila
2nd Place	Brainerd Dispatch		Theresa Bourke
3rd Place	Brainerd Dispatch		Theresa Bourke

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	Grand Forks Herald		Joshua Irvine
2nd Place	Grand Forks Herald		Joshua Irvine
3rd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	Ingrid Harbo

Freedom of Information Award

All Newspapers

1st Place	Steele County Times	Blooming Prairie	Kay Fate, Rick Bussler, Joni Hubred
2nd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	April Baumgarten
3rd Place	Crystal/Robbinsdale/ New Hope/Golden Valley Sun Post		Anja Wuolu

Explanation of Newspaper Operations or Newspaper Ethics

All Newspapers

1st Place	Pine Knot News	Cloquet	Jana Peterson
2nd Place	Alexandria Echo Press		Echo Press staff
3rd Place	Isanti-Chisago County Star	Cambridge	Bill Stickels III

Category X

All Non-multi-day

1st Place	Steele County Times	Blooming Prairie	
2nd Place	Forest Lake Times		
3rd Place	Cottonwood County Citizen	Windom	Staff

All Multi-day

1st Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester	Staff
2nd Place	Grand Forks Herald		Hannah Shirley, Korrie Wenzel
3rd Place	The Journal	New Ulm	Fritz Busch

General Excellence

Non-multi-day: up to 1,000

1st Place	The Observer/Advocate	Mountain Lake/Butterfield	
2nd Place	Waseca County Pioneer		
3rd Place	Crow River News	St. Michael/Albertville	

Non-multi-day: 1,001 to 1,500

1st Place	Henderson Independent		
2nd Place	Maple Lake Messenger		
3rd Place	Jackson County Pilot		

2023-24 Better Newspaper Contest Winners

General Excellence

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	Steele County Times	Blooming Prairie
2nd Place	Faribault County Register	Blue Earth
3rd Place	Pope County Tribune	Glenwood / Starbuck

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	Edina Sun Current
2nd Place	Sauk Rapids Herald
3rd Place	The Ely Echo

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	White Bear Press	
2nd Place	Minnetonka / Excelsior / Eden Prairie Sun Sailor	
3rd Place	Northeaster	Minneapolis

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	The Bemidji Pioneer	
2nd Place	Park Rapids Enterprise	
3rd Place	The Journal	New Ulm

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	Brainerd Dispatch	
2nd Place	Alexandria Echo Press	
3rd Place	The Free Press	Mankato

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	Duluth News Tribune	
2nd Place	Post Bulletin	Rochester
3rd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead

Dave Pyle New Journalist Award

All Non-multi-day

1st Place	Wadena Pioneer Journal	Nicole Stracek	
2nd Place	The Globe	Worthington	Skyler Jackson
3rd Place	Edina Sun Current	Alex Kautzman	

All Multi-day

1st Place	Owatonna People's Press	Josh LaFollette	
2nd Place	The Daily Journal	Fergus Falls	Karrie Carlson
3rd Place	Grand Forks Herald	Delaney Otto	

Herman Roe Editorial Writing Award

Non-multi-day: up to 1,000

1st Place	The Kerkhoven Banner	Ted Almen
2nd Place	The Kerkhoven Banner	Ted Almen
3rd Place	The Kerkhoven Banner	Ted Almen

2023-24 Better Newspaper Contest Winners

Herman Roe Editorial Writing Award

Non-multi-day: 1,001 to 1,500

1st Place	Swift County Monitor-News	Benson	Reed Anfinson
2nd Place	Henderson Independent		Rachel Miller
3rd Place	Swift County Monitor-News	Benson	Reed Anfinson

Non-multi-day: 1,501 to 3,000

1st Place	The Timberjay	Tower/Ely/Cook-Orr	Marshall Helmberger
2nd Place	Pine Knot News	Cloquet	Brady Slater
3rd Place	Steele County Times	Blooming Prairie	Joni Hubred

Non-multi-day: 3,001 to 7,000

1st Place	The Globe	Worthington	Julie Buntjer
2nd Place	Crystal/Robbinsdale/ New Hope/Golden Valley Sun Post		Anja Wuolu
3rd Place	The Ely Echo		Nick Wognum, Tom Coombe

Non-multi-day: over 7,000

1st Place	Sartell-St. Stephen Newsleader		Dennis Dalman
2nd Place	Northeaster	Minneapolis	Cynthia Sowden
3rd Place	The Park Bugle	St. Paul	Helen Warren

Multi-day: up to 5,000

1st Place	The Daily Journal	Fergus Falls	Heather Kantrud
2nd Place	The Bemidji Pioneer		Annalise Braught
3rd Place	The Daily Journal	Fergus Falls	Heather Kantrud

Multi-day: 5,001 to 10,000

1st Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Joe Spear
2nd Place	The Free Press	Mankato	Kathy Vos
3rd Place	Alexandria Echo Press		Al Edenloff

Multi-day: 10,001 and over

1st Place	Duluth News Tribune		Chuck Frederick
2nd Place	Duluth News Tribune		Chuck Frederick
3rd Place	Grand Forks Herald		Korrie Wenzel

Lynn Smith Community Leadership Award

All Newspapers

1st Place	Steele County Times	Blooming Prairie	Kay Fate, Rick Bussler, Joni Hubred
2nd Place	Grand Forks Herald		Staff
3rd Place	The Forum	Fargo/Moorhead	Patrick Springer