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Virginia Press Association Sweepstakes and Best in Show Awards

RICHMOND, Va.- On April 8th, 2017, the Virginia Press Association held their Annual Awards Banquet. With over 500 members in attendance, the following awards were presented over dinner. Judges' comments are included when provided.

Sweepstakes

Grand Sweepstakes:

Daily 1: The Daily Progress
Daily 2: The News & Advance
Daily 3: The Virginian-Pilot
Specialty: Richmond Magazine
Non-Daily 1: The Tidewater News
Non-Daily 2: Page News & Courier
Non-Daily 3: Loudoun Times-Mirror

News Sweepstakes:

Daily 1: The Daily Progress
Daily 2: The News & Advance
Daily 3: The Virginian-Pilot
Non-Daily 1: The Commonwealth Times

Non-Daily 2: Page News & Courier
Non-Daily 3: Loudoun Times-Mirror
Online: Charlottesville Tomorrow
Specialty: Richmond Magazine

Advertising Sweepstakes:

Daily 1: Northern Virginia Daily
Daily 2: The News & Advance
Daily 3: Daily Press
Specialty: Richmond Magazine
Non-Daily 1: The Tidewater News
Non-Daily 2: Courier-Record
Non-Daily 3: Fauquier Times

Best in Show

News- Best in Show

Daily Artwork: Sam Hundley- The Virginian-Pilot

"It was an arresting image"

Non-Daily Artwork: Laura Stanton- Rappahannock News

“I thought it was very powerful”

Specialty Artwork: Laurie Lawrence, Jamey Fry- Washington Business Journal

Daily Photography: Jonathan Gruenke- Daily Press

“A heartfelt collection of moving images; truly capturing the mood, emotions of the experience; obvious display of planning and well-thought out presentation.”

Non-Daily Photography: Doug Stroud- Prince William/Gainesville Times

“There is so much I love about this shot. Great job to the photographer.”

Specialty Photography: Monica Escamilla- Richmond Magazine

Online Photography: Cassandra Brown- FauquierNow.com

Daily News Presentation: Staff- Washington Post

Non-Daily News Presentation: Larissa Tyler, Scott Bass, Jeff Bland- Chesterfield Observer

Specialty Presentation: Adrienne R. Watson- Virginia Business Magazine

Daily Writing: Dave Ress- Daily Press

“This was a tremendously difficult decision, among the three winners and even beyond the top other noted entries all could have a case made for them. I’m going with the Daily Press’ Dave Ress, simply because the scope and breadth of the impact on the entire state over the issue he uncovered was so well-reported. He told what could have been a boring data story in a way that pointed out the many flaws in the legislature’s setup, the ease with which legislators could and certainly have been influence and made me angry for residents and I don’t even live there. It’s the Fourth Estate at its finest with reporting that was the farthest thing from fake news. Bravo!”

Non-Daily Writing: Craig Macho- Fauquier Times

“Good, personal stories that deal with the larger issue>”

Specialty Writing: Stephanie Breijo- Richmond Magazine

Online Writing: Sean Tubbs- Charlottesville Tomorrow

Advertising Best in Show

Daily 1: “Morning Star Lutheran Church- Fish Fry” Cindy Copp, Staff- Norther Virginia Daily

Daily 2: “Leap Day Special” Michael Matthews, Kelly Gardner- The News & Advance

Daily 3: “Virginia Fly Fishing Festival” Arjen Rumpel- The Virginian-Pilot

Specialty: “VMFA- Kehinde Wiley” Joel Smith, Toni McZCracken- Style Weekly

Non-Daily 1: “Batter Up” Kelly Mays, Kelly Gardner- Nelson County Times

Non-Daily 2: “The Smithfield Times” Daniel Tate- The Smithfield Times

Non-Daily 3: “Elephebra” Taylor Dabney- Fauquier Times

Best of the Best: “Elephebra” Taylor Dabney- Fauquier Times

All other awards and judges’ comments can be found using this link:

https://enter.omnisam.com/gallery-home.aspx?gallery_id=40&s=g

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