



Chicago Headline Club Announces Lisagor Award Winners

CHICAGO – The Chicago Headline Club, the largest Society of Professional Journalists chapter in the country, today announced the winners of its 2011 Lisagor Awards at its annual awards dinner before nearly 350 people at the Union League Club of Chicago on Friday, May 4, 2012.

Headlining the awards ceremony honoring the best in Chicago journalism were the Lifetime Achievement Awards given to NBC 5 political reporter Mary Ann Ahern and *Chicago Sun-Times* columnist Mary Mitchell. *Chicago Tribune* reporter Colleen Mastony received the first annual Anne Keegan Award for Reporting on the Little Guy. One of the featured stories in her submission was a heart-warming profile of Oak Park River Forest High School head wrestling coach Mike Powell who despite a debilitating muscle disease continues to coach and inspire his athletes both on the mat and in life.

And the 2011 Watchdog Award for Excellence in Public Interest Reporting went to David Jackson and Gary Marx of the *Chicago Tribune*, for their “Fugitives From Justice” series. Their series exposed flaws in the U.S. justice system that helped fugitives cross America's borders and avoid capture. This standout series helped bring some of the fugitives to justice.

The winners in the other categories were:

MULTIMEDIA COLLABORATION

Robert Herguth and Patrick Rehkamp, Better Government Association, Dane Placko, FOX Chicago News, Mark Suppelsa, WGN-TV, Marsha Bartel, WGN-TV, “Credit Card Crackdown”

EDITORIAL CARTOON

Roger Schillerstrom, *Crain's Chicago Business* “Reelect Obama; O'Hare expansion plans; Illinois Pension Fund deficit; Chicago; Blago testifies; Illinois Secretary of State Department pay raises”

FEATURE WRITING

Non-daily, circulation more than 20,000

Bryan Smith, *Chicago Magazine*, “The Longest Wait”

Non-daily, circulation less than 20,000

Amanda Robert, *Chicago Lawyer*, “Legal implications exist for food trucks to find success”

Online

Staff, The Red Line Project, “10 Remember 9/11”

Television

Gia M. Amella, Allison Flexner, Giuseppe Mangione, Bill Wunner, Sheri England, Tony Whaley, Modio Media, “Terror in Tuscany: World War II Atrocities”

Radio

Rob Wildeboer and Cate Cahan, WBEZ, “Whatever happened to Marcus?”

Daily newspaper, circulation 250,000 or more

Colleen Mastony, *Chicago Tribune*, “A Family Vision”

Daily newspaper, circulation 250,000 or less

Catherine Ann Velasco, *The Herald-News*, “An Incredible Bond”

Specialty/Trade

Howard Larkin, *Hospitals & Health Networks Magazine*, “Smart Money Management”

FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHY, DAILY

Daily newspaper, circulation more than 250,000

Charles Rex Arbogast, Associated Press, “Millennium Fog”

Daily newspaper, circulation less than 250,000

Jonathan Miano, *The Times*, “Air Show”

PHOTOGRAPHY, NON-DAILY

Non-daily publication, circulation more than 20,000

Kerrie Kennedy, David Leslie Anthony, Melissa Miller, Jake Jarvi, *Sheridan Road Magazine*, “A Nutcracker Fantasy”

Non-daily publication, circulation less than 20,000

Joe Gallo and Jason Reblando, *The Chicago Reporter*, “Secure Communities”

NEWS PHOTOGRAPHY, DAILY

Daily newspaper, circulation more than 250,000

Kiichiro Sato, Paul Beaty, Charles Rex Arbogast and M. Spencer Green, Associated Press, “A Blizzard Slams The Windy City”

Daily newspaper, circulation less than 250,000

Jonathan Miano, *The Times*, “Military couples: Strength through separation”

DEADLINE REPORTING

Daily newspaper, circulation more than 250,000

Michael Tarm, Karen Hawkins, Don Babwin, Associated Press, “Blagojevich Testimony (series of 3): Blagojevich takes the stand at corruption trial, launches campaign to win over jury with charm”

Daily newspaper, circulation less than 250,000

Staff, *Daily Herald*, “Walloped”

Non-daily publication

Bethany Krajelis, *Chicago Daily Law Bulletin*, “BlackBerry outage affects lawyers and law firms”

NON-DEADLINE REPORTING

Sharon Cohen, Associated Press, “Immigration Limbo”

Daily newspaper, circulation less than 250,000

Casey Toner and Lauren FitzPatrick, *SouthtownStar*, “Country Club Hills' woes”

BREAKING NEWS

Online

Carlos Sadovi, David Elsner, Jeremy Gerner , Daniel Haar, Andrew Zuick and Liam Ford,
Chicago Tribune, “The Beating of Brian DeLeon”

Television

Joe Kolina, Rob Stafford, Jennifer Lay-Riske, Allison Rosati, Carol Marin, Mary Ann Ahern,
Natalie Martinez, Stefan Holt, Alex Perez, Phil Rogers, Don Moseley and 10 p.m. News Team
WMAQ-TV, “Blagojevich Verdict”

Radio

Steve Grzanich, Bob Roberts, Bernie Tafoya , Steve Miller, WBBM Staff, WBBM Newsradio,
“Blizzard!”

NEWSCAST

Radio

Steve Grzanich, Keith Johnson, Duane Gray, Joe Collins, Susan Glick and Jeff Joniak, WBBM
Newsradio, “ 4 p.m. newscasts, Feb. 1, June 27 and July 12, 2011”

Television

Late Newscast

Joe Kolina, Jennifer Lay-Riske, and 10 p.m. News Team, WMAQ-TV, “Blizzard 2011,
Blagojevich Verdict, Off-Duty Officer Killed”

NEWS WEB SITE

Chicago Tribune Staff, chicagotribune.com

GENERAL EXCELLENCE, NON-ENGLISH

Daily newspaper

N/A

Non-daily publication, under 20,000

Clemente Nicado, Ron Reason, Carolina Garcia, Kelly Yelmene, Alejandro Yanun, Elvira
Collins, Brian Morowczynski, *Negocios Now*

Television

Noticiero Telemundo Chicago

NEIGHBORHOOD/COMMUNITY NEWS, ONLINE

Staff, TribLocal.com

DESIGN

Daily newspaper, circulation more than 250,000

James Smith, *Chicago Sun-Times*, “James Smith entry No. 2: 3 examples of page design by James Smith”

Daily newspaper, circulation less than 250,000

Scott Helmchen, *Northwest Herald*, “Pests dé resistance, Hero worship, Hallows goodbye, Dawn breaks”

Non-daily publication, circulation more than 20,000

Stephanie Gladney, *Time Out Chicago*, “UPTOWN STORY; Changing of the GUARD; YOUR PERFECT PRIDE”

Non-daily publication, circulation less than 20,000

Christine Wachter, *The Chicago Reporter*, “Loopholes, Empty Jackpot and The Allure of Secure”

GRAPHICS

Daily newspaper, circulation more than 250,000

Greg Good, *Chicago Sun-Times*

Daily newspaper, circulation less than 250,000

Dave Lemery, *Northwest Herald*, “Bailed-out Banks; Steps of foreclosure; The War in Iraq”

Non-daily publication, circulation more than 20,000

Karen Freese, *Crain’s Chicago Business*, “The State of Small Business: It's a small business world”

Non-daily publication, circulation less than 20,000

Christine Wachter, *The Chicago Reporter*, “Double whammy, On their way out, Securing the country from immigrants”

ILLUSTRATION

Daily newspaper, circulation more than 250,000

Rick Tuma, *Chicago Tribune*, “Chicago Tribune Monday Business Profile”

Daily newspaper, circulation less than 250,000

Staff, *Hoy*, “¿Quién será?; Ficción y realidad; A donde vamos; Todos Ponem”

Non-daily publication, circulation more than 20,000

Red Nose Studio and Tanja Pohl, *Angie's List Magazine*, “Angie's List Magazine cover illustrations”

EDUCATION REPORTING

Daily newspaper, circulation more than 250,000

Diane Rado and Duaa Eldeib, *Chicago Tribune*, “School bosses' windfall”

Daily newspaper, circulation less than 250,000

Kerry Lester, *Daily Herald*, “Impulse - What drove Angel Facio to stab his teacher, and series”

SCIENCE, HEALTH, TECHNOLOGY, ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING

Radio

Dan Weissmann and LaCreshia Birts, WBEZ, “A neuro-economist explains the latte dilemma: Are you really gonna pay \$4 for coffee?”

Television

Ash-har Quraishi, Mike Prendergast, Basma Babar-Quraishi, Linda Fox and Tom Siegel, *Chicago Tonight* - WTTW, “Great Lakes Invasion”

Daily newspaper, circulation more than 250,000

Michael Hawthorne, *Chicago Tribune*, “Chicago Environment Exclusives”

Daily newspaper, circulation less than 250,000

Bowdeya Tweh, *The Times*, “Wellspring of opportunity? Environmental concerns fueling struggle over use of oil sands from Canada/ Impact stretches beyond refinery gates/Drawing a line over refining oil sands”

MULTIMEDIA FEATURE PRESENTATION

Online

David Yanofsky, Cam Simpson and Flynn McRoberts, Bloomberg News, “Victoria’s Secret Revealed in Child Picking Organic Cotton”

USE OF VIDEO

Online

Lance Booth, *Northwest Herald*, “Beyond the Game”

USE OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

Online

Alex Bordens, Brian Boyer and Joe Germuska, *Chicago Tribune*, “2011 Illinois school report cards”

SPORTS STORY

Radio

Jeff Joniak, WBBM-AM, “Joniak's Journal: Amobi Okoye”

Daily newspaper, circulation more than 250,000

Mark Konkol, *Chicago Sun-Times*, “Worst. Season. Ever.”

Daily newspaper, circulation less than 250,000

Jim Owczarski, *Beacon News*, “Court Redemption”

Non-daily publication, circulation more than 20,000

Steve Oney, *Playboy*, “The Fighter”

SPORTS COMMENTARY

Daily newspaper, circulation more than 250,000

Rick Telander, *Chicago Sun-Times*, “Murray Park: Can Heaven Still Be Found on a Playground?”

Daily newspaper, circulation less than 250,000

Barry Rozner, *Daily Herald*, “Barry Rozner Columns”

SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHY

Daily newspaper, circulation more than 250,000

Tom Cruze, *Chicago Sun-Times*, “Harness Racing”

Daily newspaper, circulation less than 250,000

John Starks, *Daily Herald*, “Reflective wrestling”

BUSINESS REPORTING

Daily newspaper, circulation more than 250,000

Jared S. Hopkins, *Chicago Tribune*, “Wrigley Rooftops Health Inspections”

Daily newspaper, circulation less than 250,000

Keith Benman, *The Times*, “Utility, regulator planned to 'party'/NiSource exec may get axed/
NiSource Inc. director to retire after perks offer”

Television

Leah Hope, Richard Hillengas, Jim Mastri, Casey Klaus, Annie Esp and Jeff Freeman,
WLS-TV, “Special Segments: Leah Hope”

Non-daily publication, circulation more than 20,000

Bryan Gruley and Cliff Edwards, Bloomberg News, “Sony With Stringer Era Waning Searches
for Hit as Payoff Year Eludes Grasp”

Non-daily publication, circulation less than 20,000

Angela Caputo, Kimbriell Kelly, Jeff Kelly Lowenstein and Louis McGill, *The Chicago
Reporter*, “Loopholes”

Specialty/Trade

Megan Cottrell, Rui Kaneya, Samuel Charles, Dylan Cinti, Caitlin Huston and Alexis Pope, *The Chicago Reporter*, “Fishing for business”

Radio

Tony Arnold and Cate Cahan, WBEZ, “United Airline's move downtown leaves suburban land behind”

Online

Katie Karpowicz, James Mazurek, Alaina Africano and Sarah Vonnegut-Gabovitch, The Red Line Project, “Business Ties: The State of Business Along Chicago's Red Line”

ARTS REPORTING AND CRITICISM

Non-daily publication, circulation more than 20,000

Jonathan Lethem, *Playboy*, “Kovacs's Gift”

Non-daily publication, circulation less than 20,000

Aaron Wertheimer, *Chicago Jewish Star*, “Henry Miller & The Jews”

Daily newspaper, circulation more than 250,000

Miriam DiNunzio, *Chicago Sun-Times*, “Standards, by Singers Who Aren't”

Daily newspaper, circulation less than 250,000

Matt Arado, *Daily Herald*, “Lollapalooza”

INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING

Online

David Jackson, Brian Boyer, Gary Marx, Emily Chow, Abel Uribe and Steve Rosenberg, *Chicago Tribune*, “Across the Border/Beyond the Law”

Daily newspaper, circulation more than 250,000

Jason Grotto, Ray Long, Jodi S. Cohen and Joe Germuska, *Chicago Tribune*, Marsha Bartel and Mark Suppelsa, WGN-TV, “Pension Games”

Daily newspaper, circulation less than 250,000

Marisa Kwiatkowski, *The Times*, “Casting concern/Senator: Make schools off-limits”

Radio

Rob Wildeboer and Cate Cahan, WBEZ, “What a police camera did NOT record”

Television

Mark Suppelsa, Marsha Bartel, Jason Grotto, Ray Long and Jodi S. Cohen, WGN-TV, “Pension Games”

IN-DEPTH REPORTING, NON-DAILY PUBLICATION

General-interest publication, circulation more than 20,000

Ben Joravsky and Mick Dumke, *Chicago Reader*, “The grass gap; What is pot prosecution good for?; The \$78 million bag; The Politics of Pot”

General-interest publication, circulation less than 20,000

Angela Caputo, Kimbriell Kelly, Dylan Cinti and Alexis Pope, *The Chicago Reporter*, “Out at first”

Community newspaper, circulation less than 20,000

Staff, *Windy City Times*, “AIDS @ 30”

Business magazine or newspaper, circulation more than 20,000

William Henderson and Rachel Zahorsky, *ABA Journal*, “Paradigm Shift”

Magazine or magazine section, circulation more than 20,000

Bryan Smith, *Chicago Magazine*, “Loss of Innocence”

Magazine or magazine section, circulation less than 20,000

Angela Caputo, Kimbriell Kelly, Phil Jacobson, Samantha Winslow, *The Chicago Reporter*, “Without a smoking gun”

POLITICAL AND GOVERNMENT REPORTING

Daily newspaper, circulation more than 250,000

Steve Warmbir, *Chicago Sun-Times*, “Corruption in Cicero”

Daily newspaper, circulation less than 250,000

Casey Toner and Lauren FitzPatrick, *SouthtownStar*, “Country Club Hills' woes”

IN-DEPTH NEWS STORY OR SERIES

Radio

Rob Wildeboer and Cate Cahan, WBEZ, “Under the Gun: Murder in Chicago and Toronto”

Television

Randi Belisomo and Adam DeBacker, WGN-TV, “Journey to Haiti (three-part series)”

Specialty/Trade

Sarah Karp, *Catalyst Chicago*, “The Right Move?”

PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAMMING

Radio

WBEZ Staff, “Cops and Neighbors”

Television

Tasha Ransom, Kimbriell Kelly, Nancy Langfels, Jay Sondheimer, Suzanne Dumetz-Cole and Russ Sherman, WPWR-TV and *The Chicago Reporter* “Living with ADHD”

BEST REPORTER, BROADCAST

Radio

Bernie Tafoya, WBBM Newsradio

Television

Paris Schutz, WTTW

NEWS COLUMN OR COMMENTARY

Specialty/Trade

Neil McLaughlin, *Modern Healthcare*

Non-daily publication, circulation more than 20,000

Greg Hinz, *Crain's Chicago Business*, "Pension Math; The center gives; To win in Springfield, CME should fix pitch"

Non-daily publication, circulation less than 20,000

Irv Leavitt, *PioneerLocal*, "1) Oh, the humanity !, 2) From Black Friday to Greed Thursday, 3) Haggis and rugby ? Scrum-tious"

Daily newspaper, circulation more than 250,000

Mark Brown, *Chicago Sun-Times*

Daily newspaper, circulation less than 250,000

Phil Kadner, *SouthtownStar*, "Phil Kadner's columns"

EDITORIAL WRITING

Daily newspaper, circulation more than 250,000

John McCormick, *Chicago Tribune*

Daily newspaper, circulation less than 250,000

David Rutter, *SouthtownStar*, "SouthtownStar Editorials"

Non-daily publication, circulation more than 20,000

Joe Cahill, *Crain's Chicago Business*, "Stop playing favorites with tax money; Moto sale shows folly of special tax breaks; Formula for failure: all self-interest, no sacrifice"

Non-daily publication, circulation less than 20,000

Jerry Moore, *The Berwyn Life*, "Know-nothings costing more than they should; Pesek must resign from D-201 board; Legislative scholarship program must end now"

BLOG

Independent

Melanie Coffee, She's Write, "Being Brown in the Suburbs, No Burnt Crosses, but a Few Cross Looks

Affiliated

David Protess, Huffington Post, "1. Guilty Until Proven Innocent 2. The Murder of Innocence 3. A Prosecutor's True Calling"

START-UP

Staff, The Red Line Project

The Chicago Headline Club also announced the recipient of the \$2,500 Les H. Brownlee Scholarship to a Chicago-area journalism student – Daniel Smrokowski of Roosevelt University and two \$2,500 scholarships for journalism students who will have unpaid summer internships in the Chicago area – Abigail Kleckler of Loyola University and Julie Kliegman of Northwestern University.

Please see attached press release announcing the winners of the 2011 Lisagor Award Winners. The awards were announced at tonight's dinner at the Union League Club of Chicago. Here are the rankings by news outlet by the number of 2011 Lisagor Awards:

Chicago Tribune: 13
Chicago Sun-Times: 9
The Chicago Reporter: 8
WBEZ : 6
Daily Herald: 5
The Times of Northwest Indiana: 5
Associated Press: 4
Crain's Chicago Business: 4
SouthtownStar: 4
WGN-TV: 4
WBBM Newsradio 780 4
Northwest Herald: 3

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or if you need more information. Have a good weekend.

Best regards,

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