



The Missouri School of Journalism
University of Missouri-Columbia

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The Best of City and Regional Magazines

NATIONAL CITY AND REGIONAL MAGAZINE 2023 AWARD WINNERS

Sonoma Magazine, *Seattle Met* and *Boston Magazine* won the coveted General Excellence awards in their circulation categories in the 38th Annual National City and Regional Magazine Awards competition announced June 5 at CRMA's annual conference, held at the Marriott Waterfront Hotel in Baltimore, Maryland.

Texas Monthly took home five prizes this year, and *Boston Magazine*, *D Magazine*, *Philadelphia Magazine* and *Seattle Met* were each awarded four. *Portland Monthly* received three prizes, and *St. Louis Magazine* earned two wins. Nine other magazines — *5280*, *Chicago Magazine*, *Honolulu Magazine*, *Louisville Magazine*, *Mpls.St.Paul Magazine*, *Sactown Magazine*, *Sonoma Magazine*, *Texas Highways* and *Washingtonian* — received single awards.

Texas Monthly's five wins included a first-place finish in Civic Journalism for Russell Gold's piece "It Could Happen Again," which judges called "a propulsive feature about the catastrophic failure of the Texas power grid in February 2021." *Texas Monthly*'s Skip Hollandsworth "masterfully reports and recounts" a "mind-bending story" in "The Cowtown Killer," which won Feature Story (Circulation more than 60,000). *Texas Monthly* received one design award for Spread Design (Circulation more than 60,000) for "Mr. Steal Your Grandma" that judges said was "scripted with the passion of a vintage love letter." The magazine also took home two more awards: Excellence in Writing for its February 2022 issue and Excellence Online for *texasmonthly.com*, a website judges claimed, "Texans can't live without."

Boston Magazine received awards in four categories. It won the General Excellence 3 prize; judges noted the magazine is "a vivid chronicle that balances the joy of its city with trenchant investigative reporting" in which "readers are reminded every month that their city is thriving." *Boston Magazine*'s Catherine Elton took home two writing awards. She won Writer of the Year with stories that "showcased deep reporting, rich details and were executed with compassion, style and an elegant mix of authority and vulnerability" and Profile (Circulation more than 60,000) with "Who is Dianne Wilkerson?" Steve Calechman took home the Herb Lipson Award for Column Excellence for well-written columns that are "fun to read as they explore interesting subjects that appeal to a wide variety of readers."

D Magazine's Kathy Wise "untangled a series of events and synthesized legal arcana into a compelling narrative" in "The Most Lawless County in Texas," winner of the Reporting prize. Eleanor Cummins won the Feature Story (Circulation less than 60,000) award for "The Worst Part About Dying," a "masterful examination of problems at a famous funeral home." *D Magazine* also won two ancillary publication awards: Home/Shelter for its March/April Home issue and General Interest for September's CEO magazine, a "well-curated issue" that "stands out for its thoughtful front- and back-of-book departments combined with meaty features."

Philadelphia Magazine's four wins included the Reader Service piece "150 Ways to Do Philly Like a Tourist," which "offers a fresh look for locals to approach and appreciate the city as an out-of-towner would see it." Jason Sheehan won first prize for Food or Dining Writing, in which "his restaurant coverage demonstrates a deep knowledge, and his vivid writing is imbued with plenty of personality." The magazine was the winner of the Ancillary: Weddings category with its Winter/Spring 2022 magazine that judges noted as a "beautiful issue" that "highlights sharp writing, tight editing, smart design, and consistently gorgeous photography." *Philadelphia Magazine* also took first prize in Illustration and Graphics for "Wooder You Talking About?" "The Lost Moments of COVID" and "Home Runs" in its February and August issues.

Seattle Met received the prize for General Excellence 2. Judges described the magazine as “well-crafted copy that grabs readers and holds on tight; editor letters so good you actually read them; attitude-forward photographs; fresh, consistent design; humor sprinkled everywhere.” With covers that were described as “energetic, playful, and vibrant” *Seattle Met* won first place in Cover Excellence. The magazine took home the award for Excellence in Design for its Spring 2022 issue, which judges noted for how it “proves fun and sophistication cannot only live harmoniously in a design system but thrive.” For “Washington’s 60 Most Timeless Inventions,” *Seattle Met* won the Leisure/Lifestyle Interests category.

Described as “a brave, raw, and honest reflection,” *Portland Monthly*’s “A Matter of Choice” by Hanna Neuschwander was awarded first place in the Essays/Commentary/Criticism category. The magazine won Spread Design (Circulation less than 60,000) for “Sacred Cow,” which was praised for its powerful and bold color combination. “Let’s Do Lunch,” a colorful package “stacked with service and fun” gave *Portland Monthly* a win in the Food or Dining Feature Package category.

St. Louis Magazine won two awards, including Feature Design (Circulation less than 60,000) for “Wild Things” in which the design encouraged readers to embark on a self-directed journey through nature. With “family-targeted articles” that help families find things to do, *St. Louis Magazine*’s “Family” e-newsletter topped the E-Newsletter category.

5280’s Dave McKenna won Designer of the Year and was praised by judges for adding vibrancy to the articles, playing with scale and using creative typography. *Chicago Magazine*’s Edward Robert McClelland won for the Online Column “Neighborhood,” where he immerses “himself in the stories of Chicago’s far-flung localities.” With rich reporting and storytelling, strong characters and the perfect use of web, print and video platforms, *Honolulu Magazine*’s “Seeking Happiness” took home first prize for Multiplatform Storytelling.

Noted as a poetic and powerful work of art, *Louisville Magazine* won the Special Issue category for “Home.” *Mpls.St.Paul Magazine* won first place in the Magazine Section for “Talk,” which judges said was “a great example of how using consistency in bold, yet clean design choices makes for an easy-to-read user experience.” With “mindful anecdotes, insightful commentary and eco-poetry excerpts,” *Sactown Magazine*’s Hillary Louise Johnson won Profile (Circulation less than 60,000) with “Man. Versus. Nature.”

With stunning visuals, intelligent writing and great reader service, the General Excellence 1 award went to *Sonoma Magazine*. *Texas Highways* took home first prize in Photography for “The Tree of Life,” in which the images tell the story of an important tree species. Finally, “Simple photography neatly captures the personalities of reptiles, mammals and birds alike” in *Washingtonian*’s Feature Design (Circulation more than 60,000) award-winning feature “Our Pets.”

More than 100 judges selected the finalists. They included representatives from publications and media outlets such as *AARP the Magazine*, *The Atlantic*, *The Atavist Magazine*, *Better Homes & Gardens*, *Consumer Reports*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Country Gardens*, *Discover Magazine*, *ESPN*, *Esquire*, *Food & Wine Magazine*, *Forbes*, *Game & Fish*, *Garden & Gun*, *GQ*, *Marie Claire*, *Martha Stewart.com*, *Men’s Fitness Magazine*, *Men’s Health*, *Dotdash Meredith Corporation*, *Midwest Living*, *National Geographic*, *New York Magazine*, *The New York Times*, *Oprah Daily/O Quarterly*, *Outdoor Life*, *Pets Magazine*, *Psychology Today*, *Successful Farming*, *Teen Vogue* and *TrippSavvy* as well as journalism professors from the Missouri School of Journalism.

The 2023 finalists and winners are: (Winners are listed first in bold print.)

General Excellence 1 (Circulation less than 30,000)

Sonoma Magazine

dsm Magazine

Madison Magazine

Palm Springs Life

Sarasota Magazine

General Excellence 2 (Circulation 30,000 to 60,000)

Seattle Met

Baltimore Magazine

D Magazine

Hour Detroit

Portland Monthly

General Excellence 3 (Circulation more than 60,000)

Boston Magazine

Chicago Magazine

Philadelphia Magazine

Texas Monthly

Washingtonian

Essays/Commentary/Criticism

Portland Monthly

5280

Boston Magazine

Philadelphia Magazine

Sactown Magazine

“A Matter of Choice” (Hanna Neuschwander)

“Is This Land Your Land?” (Kate Siber)

“For Those Moms About to Rock” (Joanna Weiss)

“The Lost Moments of COVID” (Christine Speer Lejeune)

“The Long Way Home” (Martin Kuz)

Food or Dining Writing

Philadelphia Magazine

(Jason Sheehan)

“The Moment That Comes Next”

“Into the Fire”

“Finishing What Kalaya Started”

Boston Magazine

(Jolyon Helterman)

“A Hundred Different Layers”

“A Shot Across the Bao”

“A Riviera Runs Through It”

Chicago Magazine

(John Kessler)

“French Revolution”

“The Problem With Alinea”

“Twice the Spice”

D Magazine

(Brian Reinhart)

“Masa of None”

“La Dolce Vita”

“Grain of Truth”

Washingtonian

(Ann Limpert)

“Fancy That”

“The Great Washington Bake-Off”

“Move Over, Detroit”

Herb Lipson Award for Column Excellence

Boston Magazine

(Steve Calechman) “Culture”
“Oodles and Oodles of Doodles”
“The Mascot Who Wouldn’t Disappear”
“Hold Your Horses”

D Magazine

(Tim Rogers) “The Ender”
“Resting Bird Face”
“You Won’t Believe These Emails Sent to WFAA Management”
“I Took Care of the Coyotes. You’re Welcome”

Mpls.St.Paul Magazine

(Sheila Mulrooney Eldred) “The Method”
“Sick Days”
“Sundown”
“Deer in Headlights”

Philadelphia Magazine

(Sandy Hingston) “Crankcase”
“The Other Left”
“The Real Drug Wars”
“Over the River and Through the Woods”

Phoenix Magazine

(Amy Silverman) “Raising Arizona” “Raising Phoenix”
“Dream Weaver”
“No Country for Young Women”
“Off-Broadway... Road?”

Reporting

D Magazine

Boston Magazine

Texas Monthly

Texas Monthly

Yankee Magazine

“The Most Lawless County in Texas” (Kathy Wise)
“The Bullet and the Ballplayer” (Mike Damiano)
“Trouble at the ‘Lord’s Mill’” (Sonia Smith)
“What Lies Beneath” (Russell Gold)
“Collision Course” (Bill Donahue)

Profile (Circulation less than 60,000)

Sactown Magazine

Honolulu Magazine

Pittsburgh Magazine

Rhode Island Monthly

St. Louis Magazine

“Man. Verses. Nature.” (Hillary Louise Johnson)
“Bone by Bone” (Martha Cheng)
“A Representative Rep” (Cristina Rouvalis)
“Belle of the Ballgame” (Ged Carbone)
“The Fighter” (Nicholas Phillips)

Profile (Circulation more than 60,000)

Boston Magazine

Chicago Magazine

Philadelphia Magazine

Phoenix Magazine

Yankee Magazine

“Who is Dianne Wilkerson?” (Catherine Elton)
“Being Paula Camp” (Monica Eng)
“Finishing What Kalaya Started” (Jason Sheehan)
“The Mysteries of Kari Lake” (Craig Outhier)
“The Balloonist” (Ian Aldrich)

Feature Story (Circulation less than 60,000)

D Magazine

Baltimore Magazine

Louisville Magazine

Portland Monthly

Seattle Met

“The Worst Part About Dying” (Eleanor Cummins)
“The Audacity of Despair” (Ron Cassie)
“Roses and Thorns” (Tracy Clayton)
“Sacred Cow” (Ramona DeNies)
“The Relative Under the Sea” (Benjamin Cassidy)

Feature Story (Circulation more than 60,000)

<i>Texas Monthly</i>	“The Cowtown Killer” (Skip Hollandsworth)
<i>Boston Magazine</i>	“Loss, Love, and the Hermit Who Went Viral” (Casey Sherman)
<i>Chicago Magazine</i>	“The Accusation” (Jake Malooley)
<i>Chicago Magazine</i>	“Unmaking a Murderer” (Jake Malooley)
<i>Philadelphia Magazine</i>	“Doc Is Dead! (For Real This Time... We Think)” (David Murrell)

Writer of the Year

<i>Boston Magazine</i>	Catherine Elton
<i>Philadelphia Magazine</i>	Victor Fiorillo
<i>St. Louis Magazine</i>	Nicholas Phillips
<i>Texas Monthly</i>	Russell Gold
<i>Washingtonian</i>	Sylvie McNamara

Excellence in Writing

<i>Texas Monthly</i>	February
5280	November
<i>Boston Magazine</i>	December
<i>Chicago Magazine</i>	September
<i>Texas Highways</i>	March

Spread Design (Circulation less than 60,000)

<i>Portland Monthly</i>	“Sacred Cow” (Michael Novak)
<i>D Magazine</i>	“Force of Nature” (Lesley Busby)
<i>Hour Detroit</i>	“Under His Spell: Meet Detroit’s Own Sam Richardson” (Lindsay Richards)
<i>Sactown Magazine</i>	“Magic Mountain” (Rob Turner)
<i>St. Louis Magazine</i>	“Their American Dream” (Emily Wells)

Spread Design (Circulation more than 60,000)

<i>Texas Monthly</i>	“Mr. Steal Your Grandma” (Emily Kimbro)
<i>Philadelphia Magazine</i>	“Hanging on by a String” (Jamie Leary)
<i>Philadelphia Magazine</i>	“The Disappearing Dad” (Jamie Leary)
<i>Texas Monthly</i>	“What Drives Greg Abbott?” (Victoria Millner)
<i>Washingtonian</i>	“What’s New Washington?” (Jason Lancaster, Anna Marina Savvidis, Michael Schaffer)

Feature Design (Circulation less than 60,000)

<i>St. Louis Magazine</i>	“Wild Things” (Tom White, Kevin A. Roberts)
<i>Baltimore Magazine</i>	“Crabs: A Love Story” (Amanda White-Iseli, Scott Suchman, Jason Schneider, Janelle Erlichman Diamond, Brian Oliver, Kyler Garner)
<i>Baltimore Magazine</i>	“The Audacity of Despair” (Amanda White-Iseli, Alex Fine, J.M. Giordano, Jesse Dittmar, Mike Morgan)
<i>D Magazine</i>	“The Best of Big D” (Elizabeth Lavin, Lesley Busby, Jasmine Green)
<i>St. Louis Magazine</i>	“Food Love” (Tom White, Kevin A. Roberts)

Feature Design (Circulation more than 60,000)

<i>Washingtonian</i>	“Our Pets” (Sherri Dalphonse, Marisa M. Kashino, Jason Lancaster, Anna Marina Savvidis, Jeff Elkins, Connie Zheng)
5280	“25 Best Restaurants” (Dave McKenna, Charli Ornett)
5280	“Treat Yourself” (Charli Ornett, Sarah Banks, Sean Parsons)
<i>New Jersey Monthly</i>	“Medical and Health Package” (Gail Ghezzi)
<i>Philadelphia Magazine</i>	“All About the Benjamin” (Jamie Leary)

Photography

Texas Highways

Boston Magazine

Chicago Magazine

Texas Monthly

Yankee Magazine

“The Tree of Life” (Joel Salcido, ire’ne lara silva, Ashley Burch, Brandon Jakobeit)

“The Secret Life of Cranberries” (Michael Prince, Benjamin Purvis, Moni Miri)

“Welcome to Midway” (Paul D’Amato, Michael Zajakowski)

“The Boy From Booker T.” (Jeffrey McWhorter, Emily Kimbro, Claire Hogan)

“Ocean State Odyssey” (Richard Schultz)

Illustration and Graphics

Philadelphia Magazine

5280

D Magazine

Texas Monthly

Yankee Magazine

“Wooder You Talking About?”

“The Lost Moments of COVID”

“Home Runs”

February and August

“Limited Company”

“Two Years of Solitude”

“Power Plant”

January and August

“The Worst Part About Dying”

“We’re Really Dallas-ing Dentistry in 2022”

“I Took Care of the Coyotes. You’re Welcome.”

June and August

“How Many More Did He Kill?”

“Forgotten No More”

“The Dude Abides”

August and December

“About the Hankie”

“Conversations”

“A Christmas Loon”

January/February and November/December

Cover Excellence

Seattle Met

Baltimore Magazine

Boston Magazine

Portland Monthly

The Bend Magazine

Spring, Summer, Winter

May, June, July

April, June, July

Summer, Fall, Winter

January, May, August

Designer of the Year

5280

5280

Chicago Magazine

D Magazine

Hour Detroit

Dave McKenna

Sean Parsons

Elizabeth Carlisle

Lesley Busby

Lindsay Richards

Excellence in Design

Seattle Met

Boston Magazine
D Magazine
Portland Monthly
Texas Monthly

Spring

April
August
Winter
November

Magazine Section

Mpls.St.Paul Magazine

5280
Portland Monthly
Seattle Met
St. Louis Magazine

“Talk” (November and December)

“Compass” (April and May)
“Dispatch” (Summer and Fall)
“Currents” (Spring and Summer)
“Gateway” (October and November)

Reader Service

Philadelphia Magazine

5280

Hour Detroit

Sonoma Magazine

Texas Monthly

“150 Ways to Do Philly Like a Tourist” (Christine Speer Lejeune, Philly Magazine Staff)

“One Pill Can Kill You: The Fentanyl Crisis” (Lindsey B. King, Dave McKenna, Charli Ornett, Sarah Banks)
“Moving Medicine Forward and Top Doctors” (Kathryn Walsh, Scott Atkinson, Lindsay Richards, James Yang)
“Secret Sonoma” (Dana Rebmann, John Beck, Abigail Peterson, Jerry Dodrill, Ryan Mesheau)
“Relax Already” (Kathy Blackwell, Lauren Larson, Katy Vine, Josh Alvarez, Cat Cardenas, Jenn Tompkins)

Leisure/Lifestyle Interests

Seattle Met

Baltimore Magazine
Chicago Magazine

Mpls.St.Paul Magazine

Texas Monthly

“Washington’s 60 Most Timeless Inventions” (Benjamin Cassidy, Jane Sherman)

“Long Live Dive Bars” (Lydia Woolever)
“36 Fun Things to Do This Fall” (Kris Vire, Stanley Kay, Amy Cavanaugh, Jaclyn Rivas, Elizabeth Carlisle, Michael Zajakowski)
“In Search of Found Objects” (Madeline Nachbar, Kelsey Head, Jayne Haugen Olson, Madison Bloomquist, Caitlin Abrams)
“The Golden Age of Texas Fiction” (Josh Alvarez, Jeff Salamon, Jenn Tompkins)

Food or Dining Feature Package

Portland Monthly

Austin Monthly

Chicago Magazine

D Magazine

Mpls.St.Paul Magazine

“Let’s Do Lunch” (Katherine Chew Hamilton, Michael Novak, Karen Brooks, Thomas Teal, Subin Yang, Portland Monthly Staff)

“Thrills and Chills” (Chris Hughes, Laurel Miller, Madeline Hollern, Sara D’Eugenio)
“Sushi’s Big Moment” (John Kessler, Amy Cavanaugh, Elizabeth Carlisle, Jeff Marini, Saverio Truglia, Lenny Gilmore)
“Long Live Mex-Mex!” (Eve Hill-Angus, Rosin Saez, Aileen Jimenez)
“Setting the Scene” (Stephanie March, Michael Norseng, Kelsey Head, Eliesa Johnson)

Civic Journalism

Texas Monthly

5280

Boston Magazine

Texas Monthly

What's Up? Annapolis

Special Issue

Louisville Magazine

Boston Magazine

D Magazine

Philadelphia Magazine

Texas Highways

Ancillary: Home/Shelter

D Magazine

5280

Boston Magazine

Mpls.St.Paul Magazine

New Orleans Magazine

Ancillary: Weddings

Philadelphia Magazine

Baltimore Magazine

Boston Magazine

D Magazine

Westchester Magazine

Ancillary: General Interest

D Magazine

5280

Chicago Magazine

dsm Magazine

Philadelphia Magazine

Excellence Online

Texas Monthly

5280

Chicago Magazine

Philadelphia Magazine

St. Louis Magazine

Online Column

Chicago Magazine

D Magazine

Portland Monthly

Texas Monthly

Texas Monthly

“It Could Happen Again” (Russell Gold)

“The High Cost of High Country Living” (Devon O’Neil, Dave McKenna, Charli Ornett)

“Broken” (Gretchen Voss, Catherine Elton)

“The Reign of the 3%” (Michael Hardy)

“Water, Water. Everywhere But...” (James Houck, JoAnna Daemmrlich, Lauren Ropel)

“Home”

“Best of Boston”

“The Music Issue”

“Best of Philly”

“Postcards From the Perimeter”

Home (March/April)

Home (June/July)

home (Winter)

Home & Design (Summer)

Homes (Autumn)

Wedding (Winter/Spring)

Weddings (Fall/Winter)

Weddings

Weddings (Winter)

Weddings

CEO (September)

Health (January)

Essential Chicago

Inclusion 2022

Be Well Philly

texasmonthly.com

5280.com

chicagomag.com

phillymag.com

stlmag.com

“Neighborhood” (Edward Robert McClelland)

“Strong Side” (Mike Piellucci)

“Pop Culture Deep Dive” (Conner Reed)

“Playing Texan” (Sean O’Neal)

“Tex-Mexplainer” (José R. Ralat)

E-Newsletter

St. Louis Magazine

St. Louis Magazine

Texas Highways

Texas Monthly

Texas Monthly

“Family”

“Design”

“Petal Pusher”

“Staying in With TM”

“True Crime”

Multiplatform Storytelling

Honolulu Magazine

Baltimore Magazine

Chicago Magazine

Texas Monthly

Texas Monthly

“Seeking Happiness”

“Soul of the City”

“Chicagoans of the Year”

“America’s Girls”

“The Really (Really!) Big Year”

For more information, contact Contest Coordinator Kimberly Townlain, University of Missouri, 216 Lee Hills Hall, Columbia, MO 65211 (573-884-1869) townlaink@missouri.edu or CRMA Executive Director Cate Sanderson, 287 Richards Avenue, Norwalk, CT 06850 (203-515-9294).