

For release after 10 p.m. Monday May 20, 2024  
The Best of City and Regional Magazines

## NATIONAL CITY AND REGIONAL MAGAZINE 2024 AWARD WINNERS

*Austin Monthly*, *Milwaukee Magazine* and *Texas Monthly* won the coveted General Excellence awards in their circulation categories in the 39th Annual National City and Regional Magazine Awards competition announced May 20 at CRMA's annual conference, held at the Hilton Cleveland Downtown in Cleveland, Ohio.

*Texas Monthly* took home nine prizes this year. Denver's city magazine, *5280*, was awarded five. *Baltimore Magazine* received four prizes. *D Magazine* and *Texas Highways* each earned two wins. Thirteen other magazines — *Austin Monthly*, *Chicago Magazine*, *Madison Magazine*, *Milwaukee Magazine*, *Mpls.St.Paul Magazine*, *Palm Springs Life*, *Philadelphia Magazine*, *Phoenix Magazine*, *Portland Monthly*, *San Diego Magazine*, *Sarasota Magazine*, *Seattle Met* and *Washingtonian* — received single awards.

General Excellence 3 went to *Texas Monthly*. Judges said the publication is “a delightful blend of top-notch writing, first-rate design, and actionable service packaged in engaging and innovative ways.” *Texas Monthly*'s Russell Gold revealed “the greed and self-interest of a father-daughter team of government grifters” in the article “Gushers of Cash,” winner of the Reporting prize. The magazine's other writing award was for Profile (Circulation more than 45,000) for Michael Hall's piece “Hellhounds on His Trail,” which judges called “a multilayered tale of art, identity and the ownership of truth.”

*Texas Monthly* received four design awards including Designer of the Year. Judges said designer Victoria Millner “makes unique, clever, creative decisions that unite to produce strong editorial layouts.” The magazine also took home Excellence in Design for its October 2023 issue; judges commented that it delivers “only the highest quality photography, illustration and typography the venerable magazine is known for.” *Texas Monthly* also won first place in Cover Excellence with covers that were described as daring, different and attention-grabbing. Finally, “Amor Eterno” won for Photography. Judges praised Dan Winter for his “slow and purposeful work with diffuse undertones, subtractive lighting, and darkness.”

Two editorial awards went to *Texas Monthly* as well. “The State” won Magazine Section. Judges applauded how the section “takes the topics of the day—from politics to pop culture—and distills them into highly readable stories.” *Texas Monthly*'s Special 50th Anniversary Issue received the award for Special Issue. Judges said, “Balancing long-form journalism with bite-sized pieces makes this issue feel like fun.”

*5280* received awards in five categories. Robert Sanchez won Writer of the Year. Judges said he “exemplifies the best of 21st century magazine journalism” with a voice that is “clear, compassionate and eminently fair.” The magazine's July 2023 issue also won Excellence in Writing, which “boasts vivid prose and insightful storytelling from cover to closing page,” per the judges. *5280* received one design award for Feature Design (Circulation more than 45,000) for “Power Surge,” a layout that judges noted was full of precise, compelling and powerful graphics. The magazine also took home two more awards: Ancillary: General Interest for *5280 Health* and Reader Service for “The Sense and Sensibility of

Being an Abortion Haven,” which judges called a “comprehensive resource helpful for both 5280’s target audience and residents of surrounding states.”

*Baltimore Magazine* took home four awards, including Excellence Online for baltimoreweds.com. Judges said this website “checks every box, from ease of use to depth of resources.” Max Weiss finished first in Profile (Circulation less than 45,000) for “The Chosen One,” which judges commented, “is packed with excellent, voice-filled writing.” *Baltimore Magazine* also won Feature Design (Circulation less than 45,000) with “The Framing of Eddie Conway” for its textured layers and tangible intrigue and Multi-Platform Storytelling for “The Bold and the Brilliant,” which made great use of video to provide a behind-the-scenes look at a group of trailblazers.

*D Magazine*’s Mike Piellucci won Online Column for “StrongSide.” This sports column “goes beyond the particulars to bring the human element to the forefront.” *D Magazine* also took home the award for Illustration and Graphics. Judges liked the “well-executed illustrations, juicy color and bold typography” of layouts in the magazine’s November and December 2023 issue.

*Texas Highways*’ two wins include Spread Design (Circulation more than 45,000) for “Wind Advisory,” which judges called an attention grabber for its creative use of typography and simple, yet eye-catching central image. The magazine also earned the top spot for Food or Dining Feature Package. “Fired Up” celebrates and explores fajitas “with humor, understated passion and plenty of useful information.”

*Austin Monthly* received the prize for General Excellence 1. Judges called the magazine a “beautifully designed, often surprising and always smartly written publication [that] will put a Texas-sized smile on your face and leave you feeling even more connected to this fascinating city.”

The freshly redesigned *Milwaukee Magazine* won first place for General Excellence 2. Judges highlighted its “powerful covers, fresh typefaces [and] new section openers,” calling it a magazine that “engages readers with an editorial well full of surprises.”

*Portland Monthly*’s Bill Donahue was awarded first place in the Essays/Commentary/Criticism category. Titled “Bearing Witness,” his essay “combines detailed and intimate moments with historical and regional context to illuminate the devastating systemic issue of homelessness.”

*San Diego Magazine*’s Troy Johnson won first place in Food or Dining Writing for brilliantly crafted reviews that display “his deep understanding of the restaurant world and his undeniable passion for food.” Amy Silverman of *Phoenix Magazine* won the Herb Lipson Award for Column Excellence for her columns that judges said were “brimming with humanity, compassion and wit.” *Sarasota Magazine*’s “The New Medicine of the Mind” by Megan McDonald was awarded first prize in Feature Story (Circulation less than 45,000). Judges called it a powerful story that allows readers to empathize with those suffering from mental health issues. With rich reporting and unforgettable characters, *Chicago Magazine*’s “The Last Gamble of Tokyo Joe” by Dan O’Sullivan won the award for Feature Story (Circulation more than 45,000).

*Seattle Met*’s “The Quiet Part Loud” earned the award for Spread Design (Circulation less than 45,000) for its smart and creative spread that draws readers in. *Washingtonian*’s “Amateur Hour” won first prize in Leisure/Lifestyle Interests. Judges praised the feature for balancing “actionable information alongside a celebration of place.” In the Civic Journalism category, *Madison Magazine* won with “This Is Just a Drill. Is This Just a Drill?” Judges said Jeff Oloizia’s writing “makes emotions feel concrete, real and important.”

With strong design, outstanding photography and engaging content, *Palm Springs Life's Home + Design* won the Ancillary: Home/Shelter award. *Philadelphia Magazine's Wedding* nicely balanced “aspiration with attainability,” earning it the top prize for Ancillary: Weddings. Finally, *Mpls.St.Paul Magazine's* “12 Days of the State Fair” topped the E-Newsletter category. Judges described it as a pleasure to read and an essential resource.

More than 100 judges selected the finalists. They included representatives from publications and media outlets such as *24/7 Tempo*, *AARP the Magazine*, *Advertising Age*, *Americas Quarterly*, *The Associated Press*, *Atavist*, *The Atlantic*, *Audubon Magazine*, *Better Homes & Gardens*, *Bloomberg Businessweek*, *CityLab*, *DotDash Meredith Corporation*, *Elle Magazine*, *Emerson Collective*, *ESPN*, *Fast Company*, *Food & Wine Magazine*, *Garden & Gun*, *Investigative Reporters and Editors*, *Kalmbach Media*, *Men's Health*, *Midwest Living*, *Milwaukee Business Journal*, *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, *National Geographic Live*, *New Mexico Magazine*, *The New York Times*, *Outdoor Life*, *Pets*, *Pioneer Woman*, *Psychology Today*, *R.S. Rock Media Inc.*, *Sporting Press*, *Spot On Media*, *Tennis Magazine*, *Time Magazine* and *Washington Post*, as well as journalism professors from the Missouri School of Journalism.

**The 2024 finalists and winners are:** (Winners are listed first in bold print.)

**General Excellence 1 (Circulation less than 23,000)**

***Austin Monthly***

*dsm Magazine*

*Madison Magazine*

*Sarasota Magazine*

*Traverse Northern Michigan*

**General Excellence 2 (Circulation 23,000 to 45,000)**

***Milwaukee Magazine***

*Baltimore Magazine*

*Hour Detroit*

*Portland Monthly*

*Seattle Met*

**General Excellence 3 (Circulation more than 45,000)**

***Texas Monthly***

*5280*

*Boston Magazine*

*Chicago Magazine*

*Philadelphia Magazine*

**Essays/Commentary/Criticism**

***Portland Monthly***

*Boston Magazine*

*Rhode Island Monthly*

*Seattle Met*

*Texas Monthly*

**“Bearing Witness” (Bill Donahue)**

“Jane Swift and Me” (Joanna Weiss)

“Building a New Nest” (Ann Hood)

“The Quiet Part Loud” (Allecia Vermillion)

“The Case for Busing Migrants” (Jack Herrera)

**Food or Dining Writing**  
*San Diego Magazine*

(Troy Johnson)  
“In Charm’s Way”  
“What’s the Italian Word for Sexy?”  
“Tongue and Cheek”

*Chicago Magazine*

(John Kessler)  
“French Trip”  
“A Command Performance”  
“High Steaks”

*Mpls.St.Paul Magazine*

(Dara Moskowitz Grumdahl)  
“Gifts of Winter”  
“Kernels of Magic”  
“The New Vietnamese Scene”

*Philadelphia Magazine*

(Jason Sheehan)  
“Fine Dining on Fire”  
“Hit the Ground Running”  
“Mawn Is the Moment”

*Seattle Met*

(Allecia Vermillion)  
“Mike Easton Moves (Across) Mountains”  
“Omakase Down the Rabbit Hole”  
“Long Live Pizza Anarchy”

**Herb Lipson Award for Column Excellence**

*Phoenix Magazine*

(Amy Silverman) “Raising Arizona” “Raising Phoenix”  
“Crass Ceiling”  
“Girl with a Solo Cup”  
“Buried Secrets”

*Boston Magazine*

(Steve Calechman) “Humor”  
“Strike Three, Fenway’s Out”  
“Navy Beans? No Way!”  
“Turkeys on the Loose!”

*Pittsburgh Magazine*

(Sean Collier) “Collier’s Monthly”  
“What Depression Is and Is Not”  
“Justice in the Synagogue Shooting Trial Is Incomplete”  
“Don’t Believe the Downtown Doomsayers”

*Texas Monthly*

(Mimi Swartz) “It Happened Here”  
“The Killing of José Campos Torres”  
“The Oil Boom That Went Bust”  
“The Fall (and Rise) of Enron”

*Yankee Magazine*

(Ben Hewitt) “Life in the Kingdom”  
“An Ode to March”  
“About a Boy”  
“After the Rains”

## **Reporting**

### ***Texas Monthly***

*Hour Detroit*

*Philadelphia Magazine*

*Seattle Met*

*Washingtonian*

### **“Gushers of Cash” (Russell Gold)**

“I’m Still Going Through It” (Scott Atkinson)

“Temple on the Brink” (David Murrell)

“Crisis of Faith” (Benjamin Cassidy)

“The Fall of the House of Ruby” (Britt Peterson)

## **Profile (Circulation less than 45,000)**

### ***Baltimore Magazine***

*Portland Monthly*

*Sactown Magazine*

*Seattle Met*

*St. Louis Magazine*

### **“The Chosen One” (Max Weiss)**

“Poems, a Pandemic, and a Poet Laureate” (Matthew Trueherz)

“By Any Means Necessary, I Will Keep Being an Artist”

(Hillary Louise Johnson)

“The Endurance Trials of Rosalie Fish” (Benjamin Cassidy)

“Glaser vs. Glaser” (Nicholas Phillips)

## **Profile (Circulation more than 45,000)**

### ***Texas Monthly***

*Chicago Magazine*

*Mpls.St.Paul Magazine*

*Texas Monthly*

*Washingtonian*

### **“Hellhounds on His Trail” (Michael Hall)**

“The Violin Doctor” (Elly Fishman)

“We Wish Daddy Home” (Steve Marsh)

“The Outlaw” (Emily McCullar)

“Confessions of a Former Oath Keeper” (Luke Mullins)

## **Feature Story (Circulation less than 45,000)**

### ***Sarasota Magazine***

*Cleveland Magazine*

*Rhode Island Monthly*

*Seattle Met*

*Sonoma Magazine*

### **“The New Medicine of the Mind” (Megan McDonald)**

“The Nightmare” (Annie Nickoloff)

“Surviving the Stigma” (Ellen Liberman)

“Clouded Judgment” (Benjamin Cassidy)

“Forage Wars” (John Beck)

## **Feature Story (Circulation more than 45,000)**

### ***Chicago Magazine***

*Boston Magazine*

*New Jersey Monthly*

*Texas Highways*

*Yankee Magazine*

### **“The Last Gamble of Tokyo Joe” (Dan O’Sullivan)**

“Brave Heart” (Dave Wedge)

“Hot Town Cold Embers” (Anthony DePalma)

“Redemption Songs” (Katie Gutierrez)

“In Trouble. Can’t Move. Could Die.” (Ian Aldrich)

## **Writer of the Year**

**5280**

*Boston Magazine*

*Mpls.St.Paul Magazine*

*Mpls.St.Paul Magazine*

*Washingtonian*

### **Robert Sanchez**

Steve Calechman

Dara Moskowitz Grumdahl

Steve Marsh

Sylvie McNamara

## **Excellence in Writing**

**5280**

*Chicago Magazine*

*Seattle Met*

*Texas Monthly*

*Washingtonian*

### **July**

May

Winter

March

November

### **Spread Design (Circulation less than 45,000)**

<i>Seattle Met</i>	<b>“The Quiet Part Loud” (Jane Sherman, Lincoln Agnew)</b>
<i>Houstonia Magazine</i>	“Asiatown Forever” (Amy Kinkead, Julia Kuo)
<i>Houstonia Magazine</i>	“Doomsday Is Here!” (Amy Kinkead)
<i>Madison Magazine</i>	“Style Giants” (Tim Burton)
<i>Seattle Met</i>	“Beer Town” (Jane Sherman, Amber Fouts)

### **Spread Design (Circulation more than 45,000)**

<i>Texas Highways</i>	<b>“Wind Advisory” (Mark Mahorsky, Sean Fitzgerald, Brandon Jakobeit)</b>
<i>Boston Magazine</i>	“The Really High Housewives of Metrowest” (Benjamin Purvis)
<i>New Jersey Monthly</i>	“Blowup” (Gail Ghezzi, Nick Ogonsky)
<i>Texas Monthly</i>	“Swine Country” (Victoria Millner, Peter Yang)
<i>Texas Monthly</i>	“Wacowabunga!” (Emily Kimbro, Jeff Wilson, Alex Rhodes)

### **Feature Design (Circulation less than 45,000)**

<i>Baltimore Magazine</i>	<b>“The Framing of Eddie Conway” (Amanda White-Iseli, Yannick Lowery)</b>
<i>Milwaukee Magazine</i>	“Rise and Dine” (Chelsea Mamerow, Marty Peters)
<i>New Orleans Magazine</i>	“The Best Burgers” (Tiffani Reding Amedeo)
<i>Seattle Met</i>	“The Tree of Life Is Falling Down” (Nate Bullis, Mac Holt)
<i>St. Louis Magazine</i>	“The Best BBQ in STL” (Tom White)

### **Feature Design (Circulation more than 45,000)**

<b>5280</b>	<b>“Power Surge” (Sean Parsons, Kathleen Fu)</b>
<i>Boston Magazine</i>	“Top 50 Restaurants 2023” (Benjamin Purvis)
<i>D Magazine</i>	“How to (Live Forever)” (Lesley Busby)
<i>Texas Monthly</i>	“The Good Place” (Victoria Millner, Mackenzie Smith Kelly, Arturo Olmos, Chad Wadsworth, Holly Wales)
<i>Washingtonian</i>	“100 Very Best Restaurants” (Sherri Dalphonse, Jeff Glendenning, Anna Marina Savvidis, Lauren Steel, Scott Suchman, Ann Limpert)

### **Photography**

<i>Texas Monthly</i>	<b>“Amor Eterno” (Emily Kimbro, Dan Winters)</b>
<i>Chicago Magazine</i>	“Why They Carry” (Christian K. Lee, Michael Zajakowski)
<i>Fort Worth Magazine</i>	“The 9 Muses of Western Art” (Crystal Wise)
<i>Texas Highways</i>	“Infinite Zest” (Christ Chávez)
<i>Texas Highways</i>	“The Wildest Show Ever Staged” (Bill Kennedy)

### **Illustration and Graphics**

<i>D Magazine</i>	<b>“The Fish and Chips Odyssey”</b>
	<b>“The Ballad of Lance Von Erich”</b>
	<b>“How We Holiday”</b>
	<b>November and December</b>
<b>5280</b>	“Reasons to Love Denver”
	“Ransom Road”
	“The Oversimplified Guide to Adopting an Adventure Dog”
	May and July

*Seattle Met*

“The Hospital Robots Among Us”  
“Going Nuclear”  
“The Indispensable Chateau Ste. Michelle”  
Winter

*Texas Highways*

“Hive Mind”  
“Fault Lines”  
“Honky Tonk Heroines”  
May, August, September

*Texas Monthly*

“Cock Fight”  
“In Operation Lone Star, Cruelty Is the Point”  
“We’re #1!”  
September and October

**Cover Excellence**

***Texas Monthly***

*D Magazine*

*Hour Detroit*

*Palm Springs Life*

*Texas Highways*

**February, May, August**

March, July, September

March, June, August

April, October, November

September, November, December

**Designer of the Year**

***Texas Monthly***

5280

*Boston Magazine*

*Chicago Magazine*

*Texas Monthly*

**Victoria Millner**

Dave McKenna

Benjamin Purvis

David Syrek

Jenn Tompkins

**Excellence in Design**

***Texas Monthly***

5280

*Boston Magazine*

*Palm Springs Life*

*St. Louis Magazine*

**October**

July

December/January

September

March

**Magazine Section**

***Texas Monthly***

*Boston Magazine*

*Chicago Magazine*

*Mpls.St.Paul Magazine*

*Seattle Met*

**“The State” (November and December)**

“Life & Style” (February and March)

“The 312” (October and November)

“Talk” (April and May)

“Currents” (Fall and Winter)

**Reader Service**

5280

5280

*Milwaukee Magazine*

**“The Sense & Sensibility of Being an Abortion Haven”  
(Lindsey B. King, Dave McKenna, Charli Ornett,  
Sarah Banks, Hanna Barczyk, Rachel Woolf)**

“What are the Odds?” (Lindsey B. King, Sean Parsons,  
Charli Ornett, Sarah Banks, The Sporting Press)

“Best of Milwaukee” (Chris Drosner, Chelsea Mamerow)

*Rhode Island Monthly*

“Cannabis 101” (Dana Laverty, Kaitlyn Murray, Lauren Clem, Doreen Chisnell, Edelinda Baptista, Angel Tucker)

*Sonoma Magazine*

“Our Ultimate Spring Planting Guide” (Kier Holmes, Meg McConahey, Abigail Peterson, Eileen Roche)

### **Leisure/Lifestyle Interests**

***Washingtonian***

5280

**“Amateur Hour” (Jessica M. Goldstein)**

“In the Land of the Lost” (Jessica LaRusso, Dave McKenna, Charli Ornett, Sarah Banks, Michael Byers)

*Chicago Magazine*

“39 Reasons to Love Winter in Chicago” (Stanley Kay, Elizabeth Carlisle, Michael Zajakowski)

*Hour Detroit*

“The Lake Effect” (Kate Walsh, Lindsay Richards)

*Mpls.St.Paul Magazine*

“The Hit List” (Jayne Haugen Olson, Michael Norseng, Kelsey Head, Madeline Nachbar, Madison Bloomquist, Steve Marsh)

### **Food or Dining Feature Package**

***Texas Highways***

**“Fired Up” (Marcela Fuentes, Eric Pohl, Jessie Lin, Danielle Lopez)**

*Boston Magazine*

“How Do You Like Them Apples!” (Wyndham Lewis, Brittany Jasnoff, Chris Vogel)

*D Magazine*

“The Best Little Roadhouses in North Texas” (Kathy Wise)

*Phoenix Magazine*

“Eatin’ in the U.S.A.” (Craig Outhier, Leah LeMoine, Madison Rutherford, Mirelle Inglefield, Angelina Aragon)

*Seattle Met*

“The Restaurant Issue” (Allecia Vermillion, Jane Sherman)

### **Civic Journalism**

***Madison Magazine***

**“This Is Just a Drill. Is This Just a Drill?” (Jeff Oloizia)**

*Baltimore Magazine*

“Road to Ruin” (Ron Cassie)

*St. Louis Magazine*

“A Problem in Deed” (Nicholas Phillips)

*Texas Monthly*

“Going for Broke” (Forrest Wilder)

*Texas Monthly*

“Public Schools at a Breaking Point” (Mimi Swartz)

### **Special Issue**

***Texas Monthly***

**“Special 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Issue” (February)**

*Baltimore Magazine*

“The Great Bay” (May)

*Boston Magazine*

“Boston Marathon Bombings Anniversary Issue” (April)

*Boston Magazine*

“Best of Boston” (July)

*Philadelphia Magazine*

“Best of Philly” (November)

### **Ancillary: Home/Shelter**

***Palm Springs Life***

***Home + Design (Fall)***

*Austin Monthly*

*Home (Summer)*

*Boston Magazine*

*Home (Summer)*

*D Magazine*

*Home (September/October)*

*Mpls.St.Paul Magazine*

*Home & Design (Winter)*



**Ancillary: Weddings**

*Philadelphia Magazine*

*Baltimore Magazine*

*Boston Magazine*

*D Magazine*

*Milwaukee Magazine*

**Wedding (Winter/Spring)**

*Weddings (Winter/Spring)*

*Weddings*

*Weddings (Fall)*

*Weddings*

**Ancillary: General Interest**

**5280**

*Chicago Magazine*

*Delaware Today*

*dsm Magazine*

*Philadelphia Magazine*

**Health**

*Chicago's 50 Best Things to Eat*

*302 Health*

*Inclusion*

*Be Well Philly*

**Excellence Online**

***Baltimore Magazine***

*5280*

*Chicago Magazine*

*Sonoma Magazine*

*Texas Monthly*

***baltimoreweds.com***

*5280.com*

*chicagomag.com*

*sonomamag.com*

*texasmonthly.com*

**Online Column**

***D Magazine***

*Chicago Magazine*

*Chicago Magazine*

*D Magazine*

*Texas Monthly*

**“StrongSide” (Mike Piellucci)**

“Kessler on Dining” (John Kessler)

“On Politics” (Edward Robert McClelland)

“A Portrait of Dallas” (Catherine Wendlandt)

“Politics and Policy” (Christopher Hooks)

**E-Newsletter**

***Mpls.St.Paul Magazine***

*Baltimore Magazine*

*Rhode Island Monthly*

*St. Louis Magazine*

*St. Louis Magazine*

**“12 Days of the State Fair”**

“The Weekender”

“The Dish”

“Design + Home”

“Solutions”

**Multiplatform Storytelling**

***Baltimore Magazine***

*Chicago Magazine*

*New Orleans Magazine*

**“The Bold and the Brilliant”**

“Chicagoans of the Year”

“NOSH”