



FINALISTS 2023

Kentucky Association of Broadcasters 2023 Impact Broadcast Awards Finalists

Television I

Public Affairs: Valerie Chinn and Stuart Hammer and Jason Riley, WDRB-TV, "Louisville Appliance Repairman Accused of Scamming Customers Out of Hundreds of Dollars"; Garrett Thomas and Barton Bill, WKYT-TV, "A Mother's Warning: The Dangers of Co-sleeping."

Sports Feature: Jon Black and Munashe Kwangwari, WLKY-TV, "Silver Creek Girls Basketball"; Tyler Greever, WHAS-TV, "Strike It Rich."

Sports Prep Show: Mitch Brown and Michael Epps and Nicole Hutchison, WDKY-TV, "Home Team Friday Nights"; WKYT-TV, "Game Time."

Sports Special: Megan Short and Kent Spencer, WHAS-TV, "Wildcat Warm-up"; WKYT-TV, "Joe B. Hall | Remembering the Legend."

Feature | Sports Videography: Dominik Fuhrmann, WDRB-TV, "Drive"; Brian Stahl, WLEX-TV, "Football in the Heat."

News Videography: Jon Black, WLKY-TV, "Cairo Headstone"; Jonathon Gregg, Spectrum News Kentucky, "180 Days Later."

Political Coverage: Bode Brooks, WDKY-TV, "Composite- Bode Brooks"; Monica Harkins, WDRB-TV.

News Promotion: Troy McDonald and Paul Chaplin, WLKY-TV, "Morning Leaders"; Dave Medley and Lee Gamel, WLEX-TV, "Wrongly Jailed."

Breaking News: Brian Neal and Jennifer Smith, WLEX-TV, "Eastern Kentucky Flooding Coverage"; WHAS-TV, "Mayoral Candidate Targeted by Gunman."

Continuing Coverage: Brian Neal and Jennifer Smith, WLEX-TV, "Eastern Kentucky Flooding Disaster"; WKYT-TV, "Historic Kentucky Floods."

Enterprise Reporting: Erin Kelly and Jonathon Gregg, Spectrum News Kentucky, "Black Balloon Project"; Shay McAlister and Phillip Murrell, WHAS-TV, "Feeling Forgotten."

News Special/Documentary: Hayley Minogue and Michelle Zelli and Jessica Farley, WHAS-TV, "Carjacking: The Crime Catalyst"; Megan Short and Ian Hardwitt, WHAS-TV, "Kentucky Tornadoes: One Year Later."



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Special Series: John Charlton, WHAS-TV, "The Push for Medical Marijuana"; Jeff Knight and John Boel, WAVE-TV, "Taking Back Our Streets."

Investigative Reporting: John Charlton, WHAS-TV, "Solar Titan Troubles"; Leigh Searcy and Morgan Eads, WLEX-TV, "Neighborhood Wants Answers After Dog Attacks."

Best Digital Coverage: Deborah Harbsmeier and Bryce Shreve and Chris Hughes, Spectrum News Kentucky; WHAS-TV.

TV Reporter: Valerie Chinn, WDRB-TV; Grace McKenna, WHAS-TV.

Best Multimedia Reporter: John Charlton, WHAS-TV; Austin Pollack, WLEX-TV.

Best Producer: Thomas Gleaton, WDRB-TV; Michelle Zelli, WHAS-TV.

Sportscaster: Mitch Brown, WDKY-TV; Kent Taylor, WAVE-TV.

TV Editor: Scott Eckhardt, WLKY-TV; Dave Medley, WLEX-TV.

News Videographer: Barton Bill, WKYT-TV; Dominik Fuhrmann, WDRB-TV.

Weather Anchor: Chris Bailey, WKYT-TV; Ben Pine, WHAS-TV.

Feature Reporting: Marvin Bartlett, WDKY-TV, "A Postman's Pictures"; Jonathon Gregg, Spectrum News Kentucky, "Judy & Orby."

News Anchor: Amber Philpott, WKYT-TV; Doug Proffitt, WHAS-TV.

Daytime Newscast: WDRB-TV; WKYT-TV.

Evening Newscast: Megan Short, WHAS-TV; WKYT-TV.

Overall Excellence: Jenelle Shriner and John O'Brien, WAVE-TV; WKYT-TV.

Television II

Public Affairs: Chelsea Armstrong, WSAZ-TV, "Summer Weather Special"; Ryan Murphy, WSAZ-TV, "Tornado Tragedy."

Sports Feature: Kaden Gaylord-Day, WBKO-TV, "Widener Blood Runs Deep in Bowling Green Soccer"; Adam Wells and Mason Watkins, WPSD-TV, "Cathryn Brown Making Her Own Legacy Following Brothers Passing."

Sports Prep Show: Keith Morehouse and Jim Treacy and Dustin Weekley, WSAZ-TV, "Football Friday Night"; Adam Wells and Blake Sandlin, WPSD-TV, "8/26 Gridiron Glory."



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Sports Special: John Lowe and Courtney Layne Brewer and Nate Johnson, WYMT-TV, "Sports Overtime"; Adam Wells and Blake Sandlin, WPSD-TV, ""Racing to March" - 2022-23 Murray State basketball preview special."

Feature | Sports Videography: Keith Morehouse, WSAZ-TV; Joseph Payton, WSAZ-TV.

News Videography: Jay Melvin, WSAZ-TV, "Heritage Farm Bike Trail"; Mason Watkins, WPSD-TV, "Service & Sacrifice: WWII Reenactors Honor the Greatest Generation."

Political Coverage: Isaac Calvert, WBKO-TV, "2022 Election"; Todd Faulkner and Mason Watkins, WPSD-TV, "American Truth: Politics, Government, Civics."

News Promotion: Jake Conley, WSAZ-TV, "Fired Up Friday"; Todd Tipton and Jake Embrey, WFIE-TV, "Rise Up! Remembering the December 10th Tornado."

Breaking News: Ryan Murphy, WSAZ-TV, "Polar Vortex"; Dustin Weekley and Ryan Murphy and Sarah Sager, WSAZ-TV, "Floyd Officer Shooting."

Continuing Coverage: Justin Jones and Jack Kane and Jasmine Youngblood, WPSD-TV, "Judge Jamie Jameson Misconduct Hearing "; WYMT-TV, "Deadly Eastern Kentucky Flooding."

Enterprise Reporting: Jennifer Horbelt and Mason Watkins, WPSD-TV, "Taking Flight"; WSAZ-TV, "All Terrain at All Hours."

News Special/Documentary: Kristen Bentley and Sarah Sager and Joseph Payton, WSAZ-TV, "53 Days"; Joe Schlaerth and Brian Cissell, WFIE-TV, "Rise Up! Remembering the December 10th Tornado."

Special Series: Todd Faulkner and Mason Watkins, WPSD-TV, "2022 DC Fly-in"; Buddy Forbes, WYMT-TV, "Eastern Kentucky Flooding."

Investigative Reporting: Kimberly Keagy, WSAZ-TV, "Residents Blindsided"; Kimberly Keagy and Kristen Bentley, WSAZ-TV, "Safety Shortchanged."

Best Digital Coverage: Leanne Fuller and Charity Blanton, WPSD-TV; WYMT-TV.

TV Reporter: Isaac Calvert, WBKO-TV; Kimberly Keagy, WSAZ-TV.

Best Multimedia Reporter: Andrew Colegrove, WSAZ-TV; Kimberly Keagy, WSAZ-TV.

Best Producer: Chelsea Armstrong, WSAZ-TV; Ryan Murphy, WSAZ-TV.

Feature Reporting: Olivia Calfee, WYMT-TV, "Lucky Penny"; Lauren Floyd, WBKO-TV, "Woman Raped by Stepfather at 12-years-old Shares Story, Reacts to State's Abortion Trigger Law."

Sportscaster: Lauren Floyd, WBKO-TV; Adam Wells, WPSD-TV.



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TV Editor: Micah Price, WPSD-TV; Mason Watkins, WPSD-TV.

News Videographer: Jay Melvin, WSAZ-TV; Raegan Williams, WSAZ-TV.

Weather Anchor: Scott Burchett, WNKY-TV; Brandon Butcher, WSAZ-TV.

News Anchor: Taylor Eaton, WSAZ-TV; Jennifer Horbelt, WPSD-TV.

Daytime Newscast: Kirstin Baum and Brandon Robinson, WYMT-TV, "Mountain News This Morning-Special Flood Newscast"; Ryan Epling and Josie Fletcher, WSAZ-TV, "Today & Studio 3."

Evening Newscast: Katy Beth Boyers and Jackson Hamilton, WBKO-TV; Dustin Weekley and Chelsea Armstrong and Ryan Murphy, WSAZ-TV, "Floyd Mass Shooting."

Overall Excellence: WSAZ-TV; WYMT-TV.

Radio

Short Public Affairs: Karyn Czar, WUKY-FM, "Signs of Hope"; Derek Operle, WKMS-FM, "Where Kentuckians Seeking Abortions Outside the State's Borders Can Go."

Long Public Affairs: Lisa Autry, WKYU-FM, "COVID Still Having Profound Effects on Kentucky Youth in 2022"; Brennan Crain, WCLU-AM, "Peace Out Foster Care: Barren County Couple Adopts Three Children."

Sports Reporting: Leeann Akers, WMKY-FM; Stu Johnson, WEKU-FM, "EKU Coach Sidelined by Heart Attack."

Short Light News Feature: Brennan Crain, WCLU-AM, "'Halloween on South Green Street' returns after two years"; Edward Marlowe, WKDZ-FM, "Camp Cadiz Assists Those Who Most Need It."

Sports Feature/Special: Sam Dick, WEKU-FM, "Tony the Legend"; Cheri Lawson, WEKU-FM, "Ax Throwing as a Stress Reliever."

Use of Sound: Lisa Autry, WKYU-FM, "Mission Complete: Honor Flight Bluegrass sends 82 WWII, Korean, and Vietnam War Veterans to Washington D.C."; Cheri Lawson, WEKU-FM, "Music is Rolling Through the Hills of Appalachia Again."

Short Serious News Feature: Karyn Czar, WUKY-FM, "Woodsongs Delivers Donated Instruments to Storm-affected Kentuckians"; Josh James, WUKY-FM.

Political Coverage: Lisa Autry, WKYU-FM; Karyn Czar, WUKY-FM, "General Assembly 2022."



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Breaking News: Stan Ingold, WEKU-FM, "Preparing for a Fight"; Josh James, WUKY-FM.

Continuing Coverage: Lisa Autry, WKYU-FM, "Bowling Green Residents Impacted by Tornado Still Waiting for Permanent Housing Solutions"; Samantha Morrill and Tom Martin and Neil Kesterson, WEKU-FM, "Flooding Damages Historic Hindman Settlement School."

Long Light News Feature: Samantha Lederman, WUKY-FM, "Kentucky Folk Anti-hero Cocaine Bear's Exploits to get Hollywood Treatment"; Derek Operle, WKMS-FM, "Endangered Red Wolf Pups Born in Land Between the Lakes Continue Hope of Species' Repopulation."

Enterprise Reporting: Lisa Autry, WKYU-FM, "Plowing Ahead: How Farmers in Bremen are Coping Six Months after Historic Tornado"; Ryan Van Velzer, WFPL-FM, "Toxic 'forever chemicals' Polluted Drinking Water in this Kentucky town. Residents Say They Didn't Know."

Special Series/Documentary: Cheri Lawson, WEKU-FM, "Kentucky Women Find Their Voice"; Alana Watson, WKYU-FM, "Post-Dobbs Kentucky: The Present and Future of Abortion Rights in the Commonwealth."

Long Serious News Feature: Lily Burris, WKMS-FM, "Mayfield Latino Community Overcomes Language Barriers, Trust Issues in Recovery Process"; Karyn Czar, WUKY-FM, "Reporter's Notebook: Everyday Heroes of Eastern Kentucky."

Investigative Reporting: Corinne Boyer, WEKU-FM, "Flooded Mountain Communities Face Challenges"; Corinne Boyer, WEKU-FM, "Skyrocketing Utility Bills Leave Kentuckians Struggling."

Digital Coverage: Cheri Lawson, WEKU-FM; Liam Niemeyer, WKMS-FM.

Radio Reporter: Karyn Czar, WUKY-FM; Josh James, WUKY-FM.

Radio Anchor: Wendy Barnett, WEKU-FM; WFPL-FM.

Short Newscast: Wendy Barnett and Stan Ingold, WEKU-FM; WKYU-FM.

Long Newscast: Leann Akers, WMKY-FM; Tanner Boyd, WMKY-FM.

Overall Excellence: WEKU-FM; WKMS-FM.



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College Television

Best Public Affairs: Alexis Schindler, Murray State University - TV, "Dealing with Mental Health Struggles in College"; Gracie Turner and Madeline Heineman and Lucy Bryson, Asbury University TV, "Don't Forget Us."

Best Sports Coverage: Chloe Stivers, Asbury University TV, "Soccer is for the People."

Best News Story: Adi Schanie, Western Kentucky University - TV, "Body Camera Footage of Breonna Taylor Raid Shown at Bowling Green Restaurant"; Adi Schanie, Western Kentucky University - TV, "Censure Hearing Over an Instagram Post Liked by WKU's SGA President."

Best Website: Jill Smith and Emery Wainscott and Grace Boatright, Murray State University - TV, "270 Stories."

Best Feature Story: Karena Chaudoin, Western Kentucky University - TV, "Wishy Washy"; Jackson Huston, University of Kentucky - TV, "Wildcat News Update - Independent Movies."

Best Television Reporter: Rachel Law, Asbury University TV; Adi Schanie, Western Kentucky University - TV.

Best Digital Journalist: Adi Schanie, Western Kentucky University - TV.

Best Videographer: Karena Chaudoin, Western Kentucky University - TV.

Best Newscast: Madeline Heineman, Asbury University TV; Ashlyn Hernandez and Sophie South, Western Kentucky University - TV.

College Radio

Best Feature Story: Ethan Jenkins, Morehead State University - Radio, "Cave Run Symphony Orchestra Saluting Romance in Feb. 20 Concert"; Anabel Peterman, Morehead State University - Radio, "MSU Hosts Metropolitan Opera Dramatic Soprano Alexandra Lobianco."

Best Sports Coverage: Mary Claire Carr, Morehead State University - Radio, "Morehead State University Athletes for Team USA"; Kennealy Roberts, Morehead State University - Radio.

Best News Story: Austin Preston, Western Kentucky University - Radio, "Booker Coverage"; Sophie South, Western Kentucky University - Radio, "Hurricane Ian."

Best Website: Morehead State University - Radio.

Best Radio Reporter: Hallie Adams, Morehead State University - Radio; Zacharie Lamb, Murray State University - Radio.



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Best Digital Journalist: Hallie Adams, Morehead State University - Radio; Dustin Wilcox, Murray State University - Radio.

Best Newscast: Hallie Adams, Morehead State University - Radio; Mary Clare Carr and Clay Wallace, Morehead State University - Radio.

Best Public Affairs: Hallie Adams, Morehead State University - Radio, "Sport Balls Donated"; Lacy (Clay) Wallace, Morehead State University - Radio, "Ginseng Harvesting Prohibited."