

forum



Local 32035

Washington-Baltimore Newspaper Guild

March 12, 2007

Front Page, Guild Service Awards

The Baltimore Sun's Melissa Harris and Monica Lopossay won the grand prize awards for Writing and Photography, respectively, in the Front Page Awards sponsored annually by the Washington-Baltimore Newspaper Guild. Emily B. Thompson of Catholic News Service won the grand prize for Design. Each carries a \$250 cash prize.

In the Guild local's annual Guild Service Awards, members from the Washington Post, BNA, and the United Food and Commercial Workers won top prizes, and Catholic News Service claimed the "Build the Guild" Award for bargaining unit of the year. Each award similarly carries a cash prize ranging from \$100 to \$250. The awards were presented March 26, at a ceremony in AFL-CIO headquarters in Washington.

Harris' prize-winning entry, "Neighbors' 7-Year Feud Results in 13th Criminal Case," took the Front Page Award for Local News Reporting. Winners in each category of the Writing, Photography and Design divisions of the competition are then judged additionally for the grand prize.

Lopossay's grand prize entry, "Dangerous Remedy," took Front Page honors for Picture Story; she also took the award for National News Photography with "Capt. Shane Mahaffee." Sun photographers swept the Front Page Awards: Lloyd Fox won in both the Sports Photography ("Death Spiral") and Local News Photography ("Families' Grieving Begins") categories; Algerina Perna took the award for Feature Photography ("Seeing His Duty — Barely"); and Chiaki Kawajiri won in Portrait Photography ("Swimming Baby").

Sheila Cole was a repeat winner of the Customer Service Professional Award, the Front Page Award that honors commercial work at a journalistic enterprise. Cole was rewarded with a \$100 prize for her tireless work on behalf of Baltimore Sun customers, and for dealing with the after-effects of the Sun's decision to outsource some customer-service work to the Philippines.

CNS won the "Build the Guild" Guild Service Award after showing solidarity in forcing management to back off an onerous pension proposal in contract talks that extended more than 10 months past the expiration date of the previous pact.

Emily Thompson won in her first full year at CNS, a wire service for Catholic newspapers and periodicals. Her "Images From the Archive 2007 Calendar" took honors for Marketing and Promotion Design. She copped an honorable mention in the same category for the "CNS Supplement Kits" brochure, and took another first place for Illustration Design with "No More Pluto."

Member of the Year Rich Bronson, a BNA activist, served on the Washington-Baltimore Newspaper Guild's Executive Council and its Communications Committee. He also won a Front Page award for best Bargaining Unit Publication for the BNA unit's newsletter, "Behind the Dome."

Shop Steward of the Year Michele Clemmons, a longtime UFCW staffer, was recommended for the award by Guild local administrative officer Cet Parks for stalwart service on behalf of the professional staff of the UFCW union headquarters.

Washington Post unit editorial co-chair Rick Weiss won Organizer of the Year honors for developing a new initiative that benefits both new members when they join the Guild, and their rank-and-file recruiters. Weiss additionally won an honorable mention for best Unit Publication for "Radio Free Washington Post," detailing the Guild's objections to how the newspaper's radio service was launched.

In a nomination letter for Unit Officer of the Year, Post night-side copy editor Stephen King was cited for, among other things, the time he spends "helping younger Guild members honing their writing skills and defending members who capriciously fall out of favor when a new editor arrives."

Guild Service, Front Page Award Winners

Guild Service Awards

Guild Member of the Year: Rich Bronson, BNA
Shop Steward of the Year: Michele Clemmons, UFCW
Unit Officer of the Year: Stephen King, Washington Post
Organizer of the Year: Rick Weiss, Washington Post
Bargaining Unit of the Year: Catholic News Service

Front Page Awards – Grand Prizes

Bill Pryor Award (Writing): Melissa Harris, Sun; **Bill Pryor Award (Photography):** Monica Lopossay, Sun; **John Albano Award (Design):** Emily B. Thompson, CNS

Writing

Commentary: Tom Dunkel, Sun; **Criticism:** Michael Sragow, Sun; **Feature Writing:** Mary Carole McCauley, Sun; **International News Reporting:** Gady A. Epstein, Stephanie Desmon, Sun; **Investigative Reporting:** Dan Morgan, Sarah Cohen, Gilbert Gaul, Post; **Labor and Business Reporting:** Jamie Smith Hopkins, Sun; **Local News Reporting:** Melissa Harris, Sun; **National News Reporting:** Robert Little, Sun; **Non-Daily Specialized and Technical Reporting:** Carolyn L. Whetzel, BNA Correspondents; **Public Service Reporting:** Fred Schulte, June Arney, Sun; **Sports Reporting:** Sandra McKee, Sun; **Unit Publication:** Rich Bronson, BNA

Photography

Feature Photography: Algerina Perna, Sun; **Local News Photography:** Lloyd Fox, Sun; **National News Photography:** Monica Lopossay, Sun; **Picture Story:** Chiaki Kawajiri, Sun; **Portrait Photography:** Chiaki Kawajiri, Sun; **Sports Photography:** Lloyd Fox, Sun

Design

Advertising Design: Gene Russell, Sun; **Illustration Design:** Emily B. Thompson, CNS; **Marketing and Promotion Design:** Emily B. Thompson, CNS; **News Graphics Design:** Lamont Harvey, Sun

Customer Service

Customer Service Professional of the Year: Sheila Cole, Baltimore Sun

OFFICIAL NOTICE

WBNG Membership Meeting: Monday, March 26, 7:30 p.m.
AFL-CIO headquarters (Gompers Room), 815 16th St. NW

Agenda includes Front Page Awards ceremony.

For further information: 202-785-3650

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Address Correction Requested

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