

2024 Best Ad Contest Results and Judges Comments

Best Full-Page Ad Class 1 Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable

1st Place Focus on Oak Grove Focus homecoming John Spaar and Pam Schuchter

Well constructed with great visual interest. Displays a lot of info without appearing crowded. Artistically pleasing. Great focus on local event.

2nd Place Tribune and Times Peculiar Harvest Moon Festival Jadyn Gilbert

Great looking ad for a local event. Well designed and informative. Original photography was right on!

3rd Place Maryville Forum Shore Motors Phil Cobb

Good use of flag art and background. Car photos were good as well, highlighting the 12 selected automobiles. Nice ad.

Best Full-Page Ad Class 2 Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable

1st Place Richmond News Fowler's Black Friday Sale Karen Payne

Great use of space and layout!

2nd Place Ozark County Times Lost Woods Regina Mozingo

Great layout! I especially like the use of white space!

3rd Place Perry County Republic-Monitor MARY JANES DESTINATIONS & OUTINGS Stephanie Schumer-Vandeven

Great layout and use of color!

Makes me want to plan a trip and visit!

Best Full-Page Ad Class 3 Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable

1st Place The Northeast News Winter Magic Lillian Taylor and Michael Bushnell

Well-placed elements, and I know immediately what this ad is for without having to hunt for information.

2nd Place Webster-Kirkwood Times City of Kirkwood Amanda Zarecki

3rd Place Jefferson County Leader Spooky Specials Reuther Ford Michelle Engelhardt

Lots of information is well laid out. I love the fun graphics.

Best Full-Page Ad		Class 4	Title of Entry, If Applicable	Award Winner(s), If Applicable
1st Place Nice photography a	Columbia Missourian nd clean design		Buds Classic BBQ	Melody Cook
2nd Place Nice balance of colo	Columbia Missourian r		Room 38	Melody Cook
3rd Place Nice pop of color to	Columbia Missourian balance photography and brighten what would cou	uld have been rather dark	Concert Series	Melody Cook
Best Ad Smaller tha	n a Full Page - No Smaller than a 1/4 Page	Class 1	Title of Entry, If Applicable	Award Winner(s), If Applicable
1st Place Smart use of local st	Mexico Ledger udent-athlete's photos. Supporting graphics very w	vell done. Clearly gets the poin		Tim Hager
2nd Place Good, creative grapl	Maryville Forum hics really grab your attention. Informative and well	ll built ad.	Rose Hill Acres Event Center	Twyla Martin and Skye Pournazari
3rd Place Good creative them	Maries County Advocate e idea and application. Graphics are clean and in lir	ne with the message. Nice ad.	Precision Water and Power Sports	Dennis Warden
Best Ad Smaller tha	n a Full Page - No Smaller than a 1/4 Page	Class 2	Title of Entry, If Applicable	Award Winner(s), If Applicable
1st Place Fire up the grill! Gre	Perry County Republic-Monitor at layout!		M & M MEATS ON THE GRILL TAB	Stephanie Schumer-Vandeven
2nd Place Fill up the freezer! G	Perry County Republic-Monitor Great layout!		ROZIERS MASSIVE MEAT SALE	Stephanie Schumer-Vandeven
3rd Place Great layout and gra	Wright County Journal aphics. Easy to read.		Lincoln Day 2023	Ron Schott
Best Ad Smaller tha	n a Full Page - No Smaller than a 1/4 Page	Class 3	Title of Entry, If Applicable	Award Winner(s), If Applicable
1st Place	Arnold-Imperial Leader ing! I like the way it draws the eyes to the ad, but t		Express Employment	Award Winner(s), If Applicable Debra Skaggs and Rob Schneider e at the bottom, drawing the eye through the important

3rd Place Eureka Leader Microgreens

There is a lot of information in this ad that is well laid out and easy to follow. Nicely placed elements and use of fonts

Class 4 Award Winner(s), If Applicable Best Ad Smaller than a Full Page - No Smaller than a 1/4 Page Title of Entry, If Applicable

Michelle Engelhardt

Columbia Missourian James Gordon for School Board Melody Cook

Clean, colorful. Not your typical mundane candidate ad.

2nd Place Columbia Missourian **Tropical Liqueurs** Melody Cook

Really conveys 80s feel.

3rd Place Columbia Missourian Discover the District Melody Cook

Despite being copy heavy, it doesn't feel overly crowded. Copy is also well organized, making it easy to read.

Best Ad Series Weeklies Classes 2 and 3 Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable

Springfield Business Journal 1st Place Expo 2023 Heather Mosley, Rebecca Green and Katelyn Egger

Excellent Business Expo three-page

series. Well-designed and graphically pleasing. Photos of Speakers/participants?? on page three was a good touch.

2nd Place **Springfield Business Journal Coolest Things Heather Mosley**

This series of ads are some of the coolest ads I've seen! Great use of photos and unique type, they are eye catching and attention grabbing. Good job!

3rd Place Perry County Republic-Monitor M & H Stephanie Schumer-Vandeven

Nice series of ads. Good use of graphics and color. Good application of the logo.

Best Single House Ad Class 2 Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable

1st Place **Springfield Business Journal** Win this ad! Rebecca Green

Wow! Amazing graphics! Great layout!

2nd Place Perry County Republic-Monitor STOP THE PRESSES Stephanie Schumer-Vandeven

Eye catching layout and color!

3rd Place **Springfield Business Journal** 90 Ideas Katelyn Egger and Tawnie Wilson

Great layout and use of color and b/w.

Best Single House Ad Class 3 Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable

1st Place Washington Missourian Celebrating 86 Years Jeanine York 2nd PlaceJefferson County LeaderWe Are Hiring Newsroom ClerkDebra Skaggs

3rd Place St. Louis Call Newspapers Oakville Crawl Punch Cards Promo Larry Saylor and Debbie Baker

Best Ad Smaller than a 1/4 Page Class 1 Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable

1st Place Maries County Advocate Citizens Bank Dennis Warden

Very informative advertisement. Eye catching graphics and good type selection. Clean and attractive.

2nd Place Tribune and Times Byrd's Pecan Delights Jadyn Gilbert

GREAT graphics! Outstanding type selection. Conveys message clearly. Makes my mouth water. Great body copy.

3rd Place Mexico Ledger Melody's Jewelry Tim Hager

Attractive art to attract the customer and call attention to the event. Good use of color.

Best Ad Smaller than a 1/4 Page Class 2 Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable

 1st Place
 Gasconade County Republican
 Citizens Bank CD Rates
 Dennis Warden

Fantastic use of color and seasonal imagery. Headline tells the reader exactly what the offer is. The ad pops off the page. Well done!

2nd Place Perry County Republic-Monitor PERRYVILLLE TIRE HAPPENINGS Stephanie Schumer-Vandeven

Beautiful ad with great use of fonts and colors to play off the imagery and draw the reader's eye.

3rd Place Gasconade County Republican El Tapatio Dennis Warden

A clean, crisp ad that avoids the need to fill every square inch of space.

Best Ad Smaller than a 1/4 Page Class 3 Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable

1st Place Webster-Kirkwood Times St. Michael's Arts & Crafts Fair Amanda Zarecki

Good use of the limited space. Visual elements succinctly captures the theme. The different levels of text decreasing in scale as you look down the ad helps make it easy to read.

2nd Place Jefferson County Leader Rusty Rooster Mercantile Michelle Engelhardt and Mark Grebe

Good balance of elements, especially given the amount of text. Fantastic call making large use of the logo on the leftmost side. It helps give the ad some breathing room where it's not so busy. The arrow in the logo and the rooster also helps to point to the promotion info on the right side. The curve on the top left is a nice touch too - it would help draw attention to it if it was in a group of ads.

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3rd Place Jefferson County Leader Hooked on Hillsboro Debra Skaggs

It's a little busy but the scene it sets is pretty effective for what it advertises. The background is a little too strong. Softening it might help the fish logo sit on the front a bit better instead of seeming like an odd part of the scene. Positioning of elements is pretty good, and there is decent spacing so it doesn't look too busy, even though there is lot of activity throughout.

Best Ad Smaller than a 1/4 Page Class 4 Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable 1st Place Columbia Missourian Columbia Senior Center Ice Cream Social Melody Cook 2nd Place Columbia Missourian **CUCC Easter Services** Melody Cook 3rd Place Columbia Missourian Newman Comley Ruth Welcome Stephen Melody Cook Most Creative Use of Full Color in an Ad Class 1 Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable 1st Place **Tribune and Times** Cosmic Bingo Jadyn Gilbert Good use of color throughout. Ad carried a lot of information effectively. The type choice, although not as easy to read as a more traditional style, fit the graphics and theme perfectly. Award Winner(s), If Applicable Most Creative Use of Full Color in an Ad Class 2 Title of Entry, If Applicable HEROS FOR KIDS WHEN I GROW UP Stephanie Schumer-Vandeven 1st Place Perry County Republic-Monitor Just a plain colorful ad - great use of the starbursts and other color elements to play off all the colors in the costumes - and love Spiderman popping out of the ad. 2nd Place Perry County Republic-Monitor PERRYVILLE TIRE OUTDOORS Stephanie Schumer-Vandeven The yellows and reds in the type work well together, contrast the "muddy" photo and draw the reader's eye into the ad. 3rd Place Ron Schott Wright County Journal Homepride Bank WCJ Use of purple color background at the bottom accents the purple sky at the top and draws the reader into this ad. Most Creative Use of Full Color in an Ad Class 3 Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable 1st Place **Webster-Kirkwood Times** Unity United Methodist Church Amanda Zarecki This is very striking and gets to the point immediately with the black and white hands. The red helps to unify the overall design, and connects to the Church logo. Good call adding some background texture so it isn't so flat. Perhaps a little much open space on the bottom left corner, but it isn't a big issue. Great concept and design!

2nd Place Columbia Missourian Tropical Liquers Melody Cook

The colors of the individual drinks are so inviting, and tie well with the retro aesthetic of the logo. It is also a good choice that the photo does most of the talking, and the text at the bottom is minimal by comparison. The photo perhaps could be better balanced in terms of cropping, as all the individual drinks seem pushed too much to the left, with one even cut off. There is a bit too much space to the right. The blurry rainbow colors in the background of the photograph also helps add to the atmosphere.

3rd Place Columbia Missourian Columbia Metro Rotary Club Trivia Night Melody Cook

Simple ad but effective use of colors that harmonize well. The out of alignment bright colors on Trivia Night is pretty inviting. The purple and yellow for the event info create enough contrast to drew attention, but not overpowering. The light blue frame helps tie everything together.

 Best Special Section
 Class 1
 Title of Entry, If Applicable
 Award Winner(s), If Applicable

 1st Place
 Maryville Forum
 Nodaway County Business Insider
 Maryville Forum Staff

Beautiful special section! Great layout. Nice variety of advertisers.

2nd Place Maries County Advocate Ag Times Staff

3rd Place Excelsior Springs Standard Commencement ES Excelsior Standard Karen Payne

Best Special Section Class 2 Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable

1st Place Perry County Republic-Monitor ROZIERS 120TH ANNIVERSARY Stephanie Schumer-Vandeven Beautiful layout and classy, clean design befitting such a community institution. The ads and editorial content work together wonderfully, and the timeline is an extra bonus.

2nd Place Ozark County Times Hootin an Hollarin Staff

Wow. What a comprehensive guide to this festival. The typography and layout work extremely well for the content, and the section is chockful of both useful information and advertisements.

3rd Place Gasconade County Republican Kids in Ads Staff

Love the creativity of this idea, and clearly the community bought in (so to speak!).

Hannibal Courier-Post

3rd Place

Best Special Section Class 3 Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable

1st PlaceWashington MissourianBridal ShowcaseThe Missourian Team

Very vibrant and neatly designed section. Makes full use of excellent photography. Perhaps too much use of a white frame in photographs, but it does help create dimensionality in places where the people are in front of the frame and cuts the line. Overall good thematic consistency throughout.

2nd Place Webster-Kirkwood Times Gift & Recipe Guide 2023 Amanda Zarecki

Pagination style is consistent throughout, and the recipes and gift guides are cleanly designed. The decorative touches also add character without getting in the way. At first it seemed like all the recipes are on the right side of the spread, while gifts are on the left, but not all spreads follow this. It might have helped create another level of visual organization to the design. The cover illustration is also excellent.

3rd Place Washington Missourian Christmas Coloring Book Advertising and Graphic Design Team

This is a unique and fun special section! Appreciate the effort in making each line artwork relevant to each sponsor, while also keeping with the seasonal theme. The section maintains good thematic consistency as a result. It also helps keep the line artwork from getting repetitive after a few pages - you're wondering what unique image will be next.

Best Special Section		Class 4	Title of Entry, If Applicable	Award Winner(s), If Applicable
1st Place	Hannibal Courier-Post		2023 Readers' Choice	Jackie Trujillo
2nd Place	Columbia Missourian		Progress Awards	Columbia Missourian Staff

Hannibal Magazine

Jessie Hamilton and Matt Hopf

Best Cover Design of a Special Section
Class 4
Title of Entry, If Applicable
Award Winner(s), If Applicable

Step Place
Columbia Missourian
Missouri Made
Melody Cook
Clean design with a good use of color and detail.

2nd Place Columbia Missourian COMO Kids Columbia Missourian Staff

2nd Place Columbia Missourian good photo draws reader attention

3rd Place Columbia Missourian Year in Photos Columbia Missourian Staff

dynamic photo, attention getting.

Best Cover Design of a Special Section Weeklies Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable

1st Place Perry County Republic-Monitor EAST PERRY FAIR Stephanie Schumer-Vandeven

Outstanding, attention-grabbing cover! The child's face shows total joy as he enjoys the Fair's ride. The banners and copy are well placed and blended well with the graphic. It is a wonderful cover!

2nd Place Perry County Republic-Monitor ROZIERS 120TH ANNIVERSARY Stephanie Schumer-Vandeven

What a great anniversary section this must have been! The cover is well designed and the use of photos and decorative type draws the reader in. I like the photos of the merchandise blended into the background as well. Great cover!

3rd Place Perry County Republic-Monitor WHEN I GROW UP Stephanie Schumer-Vandeven

Great use of a photo! The drawn in clouds and border with sky color background are perfect setups for the photo and theme of the section. Great cover!

Best Single Classified Display Ad Weeklies Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable

 1st Place
 Washington Missourian
 Little Rascals
 Mary Rayfield

Very creative and attention getting, which is the primary goal of any successful advertisement... "Look at Me!" This ad accomplishes this perfectly. Great job!

2nd Place Perry County Republic-Monitor CITY OF PERRYVILLE Stephanie Schumer-Vandeven

Great array photos and attention getting headline. Body copy was easy to read and conveyed needed information. All around excellent ad.

3rd Place Perry County Republic-Monitor ROLLET BROS Stephanie Schumer-Vandeven

The Truck lineup was a nice touch. Nice graphics overall. Good layout of information and with easy-to-read type choice and color type use where applicable. Overall, a really good advertisement!

Best Classified Section Weeklies Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable

1st Place Washington Missourian Best Classified Section Advertising and Graphic Design Team

Clean 6 column format with interesting headers and good graphics. Classified Dispaly ads were very well designed. Particularly liked the self-promotion of the customer opportunities within the classified pages (garage sale, garage sale insurance, business directory, etc.).

 2nd Place
 St. Louis Call Newspapers
 July 13th, 20th and 27th Classified Sections
 Larry Saylor and Debbie Baker

Clean columns and nice inline display ads. I liked the Professional Services Directory and your well-organized categories box.

Best Newspaper Promotion Weeklies and Dailies Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable 1st Place St. Louis Call Newspapers Oakville Community Holiday Crawl Erin Ashwell and Debbie Baker Nice layout. Class 1 Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable Best Shared/Signature Page 1st Place Focus on Oak Grove FOG Band seniors 2023 John Spaar, Pam Schuchner and Linda Ighoyivwi Great keepsake piece! Great layout! 2nd Place Maryville Forum **Bearcat Homecoming** Maryville Forum Staff 3rd Place Maryville Forum Veterans Day Maryville Forum Staff Award Winner(s), If Applicable Best Shared/Signature Page Class 2 Title of Entry, If Applicable 1st Place Springfield Business Journal Ask the Experts katelyn Egger This is a great idea! Clean page, matching the professionalism of the content, and an outstanding way to spotlight local experts. 2nd Place **Gasconade County Republican** St. Pats Day Dennis Warden Love the creativity, the use of colors, and the fun headlines on top of each ad. Nice work all around. 3rd Place SPORTS BBCARD **Perry County Republic-Monitor** Stephanie Schumer-Vandeven A creative way to present the traditional "supporter" ads at the start of a new sports season. And you can tell the kids are thrilled to have their photos in the paper. Best Shared/Signature Page Class 3 Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable 1st Place St. Louis Call Newspapers Job Fair Larry Saylor and Debbie Baker Very clean and precise design. The outside frame with "You Are Invited" repeated within it is a nice touch. The logos are well-balanced - framing them within even boxes helps to organize them to the eye, and keep one from overpowering the others. The choice of dark colours for the surrounding part of the ad helps unify the design. Great work on a complex ad! 2nd Place Washington Missourian Shop & Dine Local Jeanine York, Mary Rayfield and Patty Brinker Good thematic consistency throughout, and though the background pushes forward a little too strongly, the more important foreground elements still read well. Having the business info hanging like a wreath is a well-executed idea, and the little horseshoe on the steak house wreath is a nice touch and adds character. The design is well balanced too, although maybe could be spaced out a bit more. All the weight is in the lower two thirds and there's a little too much empty space at the top right and left corners. 3rd Place Washington Missourian Happy New Year Advertising Team and Sharon Pruessner A very festive design! Really nice background choice, and the concept of organizing the smaller ads into Christmas decorations is pretty solid. There's a lot of activity but it's balanced well so the individual ads are clear. However, the misalignment in some of the circles and uneven spacing between them is hurting the overall design. Asymmetry could have been an effective choice, but it comes across as lack of precision here. Weeklies and Dailies Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable **Best Advertising Sales Tool**

Holiday Advertising Planner

Amanda Zarecki

1st Place

Nice fonts, fresh presentation.

Webster-Kirkwood Times

3rd Place Good visual on the a	St. Louis Call Newspapers ad sizes and complete information.		Select Your Ad Plan	Larry Saylor and Debbie Baker
Best Ad Designer		Class 4	Title of Entry, If Applicable	Award Winner(s), If Applicable
1st Place	Columbia Missourian		Melody Cook	Melody Cook
2nd Place	Hannibal Courier-Post		Ad designed by Jackie Trujillo	Jackie Trujillo
Best Ad Designer		Weeklies	Title of Entry, If Applicable	Award Winner(s), If Applicable
1st Place Great use of space,	Webster-Kirkwood Times color and graphics.		Best Ad Designer - Amanda Zarecki	Amanda Zarecki
2nd Place Nice design element	Odessan ts and backgrounds.		John Spaar and Pam Schuchter	John Spaar and Pam Schuchter
3rd Place	Tribune and Times		WIP	Jadyn Gilbert
Best Online Ad Des	igner	Class 3	Title of Entry, If Applicable	Award Winner(s), If Applicable
1st Place Great use of space a	Washington Missourian and layout.		Lori Obermark	Lori Obermark
2nd Place	Columbia Missourian		Melody Cook	Melody Cook
3rd Place	Washington Missourian		Sarah Cates	Sarah Cates
Best Ad Content En		Weeklies	Title of Entry, If Applicable	Award Winner(s), If Applicable
1st Place Good variety of loca	Maries County Advocate Il ads. Designs are clean and have a great use of co	lor.	Maries County Advocate	Staff

2023 Media Kit

Amanda Zarecki

2nd Place

Webster-Kirkwood Times

A great media kit with complete information that advertisers need.

Wright County Journal Wright County Journal Ron Schott Great use of color, ads aren't overwhelmed with text.

3rd Place Maryville Forum Best Ad Content Entire Maryville Forum Staff Good use of photos. The themed groups of ads (nurses, Christmas, etc.) and local businesses celebrating students work well.

Best Multimedia Campaign Class 3 Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable 1st Place **Washington Missourian** Halloween Contest Lori Obermark and Stephanie Fitzgerald

Very creative ads, well designed with the choice of colors and artwork. The consistency of all ads makes the series a complete campaign.

2nd Place St. Louis Call Newspapers 4th Annual Oakville Community Holiday Erin Ashwell, Larry Saylor and Debbie Baker

Very original concept with a great combination of creative print/digital ads.

Well laid out at engaging use of graphics and design

2nd Place

3rd Place Columbia Missourian Copper Run Distillery Melody Cook

Nice layout, good use of artwork to keep the ads clean, good call to action on all ads.

Best Idea to Grow Revenue Weeklies Classes 2 and 3 Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable

1st Place **Jefferson County Leader** Golf Guide Staff

Information filled. Informative and engaging. Provides Actionable information.

2nd Place Women in Business Staff Jefferson County Leader

3rd Place **Springfield Business Journal** Welcome To SBJ **Heather Mosley**

Best Print Ad Campaign Weeklies Classes 2 and 3 Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable 1st Place Perry County Republic-Monitor Best Campaign PPC Stephanie Schumer-Vandeven

2nd Place The Northeast News Past, Present, Future Chamber of commerce Bryan Stalder and Michael Bushnell

Stephanie Schumer-Vandeven 3rd Place Perry County Republic-Monitor Best Campaign Werner

Best Sponsored Content/Native Advertising Class 3 Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable

1st Place Columbia Missourian From Combat Medic to Award-winning Melody Cook

Excellent way to connect with local veterans to help them. Interesting story highlighting a veteran who found a love for sculpture.

 2nd Place
 Columbia Missourian
 Making a difference
 Melody Cook

Great pictures and story that draws interest from the reader and reminds them where to turn for help for veterans.

3rd Place Columbia Missourian Truman VA promotes lung health Melody Cook

Good story with high interest and ends with the contact info to help local veterans. Good job!

Best Newspaper Produced Insert Class 3 Title of Entry, If Applicable Award Winner(s), If Applicable

1st Place The Northeast News Museum map and calendar sleeve Lillian Taylor, Michael Bushnell and Dorri Partain

This is a marvelous piece — beautiful, handy, original. Such an excellent idea and job. On how many walls and bulletin boards is this hanging right now in your coverage area? I'd bet it is a ton.

2nd Place Washington Missourian Dickey Bub Christmas Gift Sale The Missourian Team

Perfect in every way — great color, presentation, design, and variety. This piece of advertising provided answers for a lot of holiday shopping lists. I like the varied selection of items — clothes, guns, toys, power tools, footwear. A perfect array to get folks in the door.

3rd Place Springfield Business Journal Book of Lists Rebecca Green

This is a beautiful piece of work and was obviously a Herculean effort. From my observation and reading of contest rules, it has been entered in the wrong category and should be entered in the "Best Special Section" category. It would be unfair to the category's rules to rank it above the other two entries.