



Excellence in Broadcasting Awards 2024

WINNERS

RADIO

Behind the Scenes

WMKY-FM
Greg Jenkins

Overall Digital Presence

WEKU-FM Great job!
Stu Johnson, Shepherd Snyder and
John McGary

Talk Show

Heritage Media of Kentucky
Sam Gormley, Christy Buckles
and Mark Buckles
"In The Know"

Rookie of the Year

WLME-FM
Jalen Daugherty

Uniquely Kentucky (public service award)

WEKU-FM
Sam Dick
"Off the Beaten Path"

News Reporter of the Year

WKMS-FM
Derek Operle

Nice storytelling! Minimal track. The characters of the story do the talking. Great use of nat sound as well.

Morning Show

WJLI-FM
Jason Crockett and Ken Heron
"JC and Ken in the Morning"

Corny and fun!

Special Program or Feature

WEKU-FM
Sam Dick
"One Woman's Mission to Clean Up Kentucky"

From the well-crafted lead to the personal history to the finely tuned closer, this story was compelling from start to finish. It was funny and had some surprising emotional qualities. Perfectly executed and something listeners will talk to people about after hearing on-air.

Sports Announcer of the Year

WSGS-FM

Nathan Lyttle

"Harlan County Shocks State"

Overall Newscast/News Coverage

WMKY-FM

Samantha Morrill

Great delivery on important topics. Great use of sound clips to deliver information. Standout newscast in the category.

Use of Streaming Video

Heritage Media Of Kentucky

Sam Gormley and Mark Buckles

"K105 Digital Productions"

Broad community coverage that spotlights a range of events, topics and interests. Professional camera work and graphics with thorough interviews.

On-Air Personality of the Year

WGGC Radio

Kenny Beckman

Most interesting and engaging on air presentation.

Sales: Radio West (Districts 1-4)

WTTL-FM

Cindy Watts

Sales: Radio East (Districts 5-8)

Mountain Top Media - Radio
Tommy Fleming

Station of the Year

WKYU-FM

GREAT STORYTELLING!

Broadcast Leadership Award

WEKU-FM
Mike Savage

Locally Produced Commercial

WYKY-FM
Greg Moore, Misty Phillips and
Kevin Wilson
"Gertie and Bobby Go to DIY
Supply"

Fantastic use of humor and still get the
information across.

TELEVISION

News Reporter of the Year

WAVE-TV
John Boel

This entry represents very good reporting on a serious issue that is important to the community. The reporter didn't just get a phone call about a single case and report it, but documented a pattern of abuse, spending time to stake out the hospital where patient dumping was suspected. His subsequent stories were also well written and reported with very good production value. Content and presentation were impressive.

News Anchor of the Year

WAVE-TV
John Boel

John is obviously a seasoned journalist and does it very well. His clips were solid.

Meteorologist of the Year

WLKY-TV
Jay Cardosi

Jay does a great job. He incorporated great visuals of damage. It feels like he really gave a heads up to the viewers during the big weather events.

Videographer of the Year

WLEX-TV
Nick Lazaroff

Sales: TV West (Districts 1-4)

WBKO-TV
Erin Barber

Nice effort in tough times. Especially in her Churn achievement.

Sales: TV East (Districts 5-8)

WKYT-TV
Erin Graf

Very evident that Erin is doing all the little things right making the big things easier to accomplish. Definitely the model of true leadership.

Locally Produced Commercial

WKYT-TV
Keith Earl and Dean Handy
"Share an Evening with James Pepper"

Beautiful spot. Loved the visuals with the music track. Very attention getting and retainable.

Daytime Newscast

WAVE-TV
Makayla Ballman, Katelyn Hempel and Harrison Valk
"Sunrise"

Good energy from anchors and great coverage of breaking news with the building fire in downtown Louisville. Reporter on the scene of the fire did a great job of describing what was happening. Overall good content and coverage.

Behind the Scenes

WAVE-TV
Scott Isaacs

Evening Newscast

WLKY-TV

Station of the Year

WDRB-TV

Dale Woods, Scott Brady and
Jennifer Keeney
"The Source"

Fantastic production value, promotions,
breaking news coverage, overall delivery!

Overall Digital Presence

WKYT-TV

Rookie of the Year

WKYT-TV

Jessica Umbro

The rookie-of-the-year comes across as a composed, confident journalist who, while still navigating all the nuances of reporting, is an emerging force in their news operation. Jessica Umbro's work as an MMJ covering the tough stuff, from breaking news to key community events, to impactful state politics picks up the win here! Umbro's ability to communicate complex issues in a clear and concise manner should serve as a bedrock example to other young journalists.

Sportscaster of the Year

WDKY-TV

Michael Epps

Engages and entertains audience through reporting, also demonstrates creativity and willingness to think outside the box. Evokes strong emotion through sportscasts and storytelling, including demonstrating cultural significance and community impact through sports.

Uniquely Kentucky (public service award)

WLKY-TV

"Committed to Service"

Special Program or Feature

WAVE-TV

Natalia Martinez and Scott Isaacs
"23 Seconds: A Louisville Mass
Shooting"

Freedom of Information Award sponsored by The Associated Press

WPSD-TV

Brianna Clark and Perry Boxx
"Investigating Circumstances
Surrounding Death of Deputy Jody
Cash"

COLLEGE TV

Newscast/Coverage

**Western Kentucky University -
TV**
Ashlyn Hernandez, Noah
Dentinger and Elizabeth Vensel-
McCoy
"WKU News Channel 12"

News Reporter of the Year

**Western Kentucky University -
TV**
Adi Schanie

Overall Digital Presence

Murray State University
"The Murray State News"

Student Broadcaster of the Year

**Western Kentucky University -
TV**
Cole McIntire

Special Program or Feature

**Western Kentucky University -
TV**
Ryan Murphy
"The Rocket Kid"

LOVE the open with the NATS! Great
shooting and editing and writing to the video!
Also, terrific editing job.
Lots of fun to watch!
Excellent job!

COLLEGE RADIO

News Reporter of the Year

Morehead State University
Sydney Graham

Excellent writing and reporting.

Student Broadcaster of the Year

Morehead State University
Hallie Adams

Excellent work all around, superb storytelling skills and excellent content.

Special Program or Feature

Morehead State University
Hallie Adams and Kendall Potter
"Bill Clifton, Song Carrier"

Excellent series, story held the listeners attention through all three segments, very well produced.

Overall Digital Presence

Murray State University