



2009 Communications Contest Winners

- 1C News reporting, publication/magazine/supplement, general or specialized circulation**
1st: Amy Murphy, *Industry representatives tour Kasigluk's wind diesel facility*, Ruralite magazine
- 2 Continuing coverage or unfolding news**
1st: Diana Haecker, *Rock Creek mine development*, Nome Nugget
- 6A Editorial/opinion**
Hon. Mention: Kathleen Tarr, *Taking on the good old boys: An Alaskan feminist considers Sarah Palin*, Anchorage Press
- 7B Feature story, daily newspaper**
1st: Yereth Rosen, *A tiny Native village in Alaska copes with urban encroachment*, Christian Science Monitor
- 7C Feature story, publication for general or specialized circulation**
1st: Amy Murphy, *Extreme winter working conditions*, Ruralite magazine
Hon. Mention: Arlene Lidbergh-Jasper, *The Boston memoirs: Cape Cod reunion*, Alaska Women Speak
Hon. Mention: Amy Murphy, *AVEC members receive wind turbine training*, Ruralite magazine
Hon. Mention: Kristin Tolbert, Vera Starbard and Jessica Dorrington, *Addressing the myth of free health care for Native people*, Anchorage Native News
- 8B Personality profile, more than 500 words**
Hon. Mention: Katie Bausler, *The Great Land loses a great one*, U. of Alaska Southeast Chancellor's Report
- 9F Special articles, science**
1st: Diana Haecker, *Coast Guard icebreaker Polar Sea calls on Nome and Agencies scramble to assess impact of more arctic marine traffic*, Nome Nugget
2nd: Yereth Rosen, *In oil-rich Alaska, an energy crunch and Alaska fishing: the merits and costs of a tamed frontier*, Christian Science Monitor
3rd: Diana Haecker, *Aggressive campaigns muddy understanding of Clean Water Initiative and Polar bears are the tip of the iceberg in global warming debate*, Nome Nugget
Hon. Mention: Amy Murphy, *Wind turbine foundations and tower installation and Savoonga's new power plant and wind turbines*, Ruralite magazine
- 9H Special articles, government or politics**
1st: Yereth Rosen, *Alaska 'earmarks' king Stevens, now indicted and Palin returns to a changed Alaska*, Christian Science Monitor
- 9N Special articles, social issues**
1st: Diana Haecker, *Team effort needed to tackle homelessness, alcoholism in Nome and Community bands together to tackle underage drinking*, Nome Nugget
- 9Q Special articles, travel**
1st: Amy Murphy, *Death Valley National Park and 20 Mile River pack raft trip*, Scree
2nd: Dianne O'Connell, *Unalaska and me and King Cove*, Alaska Women Speak

- 10B Personal columns, general**
1st: Elise Patkotak, *Rich and powerful beware: I'm down to my last Twinkie and Washing slimed eagles cleanses soul*, Anchorage Daily News
2nd: Dee Gould, *Migration south: not just for birds and whales and Summer in Fairbanks: Interior Alaska at its best*, Alaska Women Speak
3rd: Elise Patkotak, *After oil catastrophe, lives rose on eagle's wings and Someone give Sarah her brain back*, Anchorage Daily News
- 16C Page layout, publication for general or specialized circulation**
2nd: Amy Murphy, *Gambell School's umiaq project and St. Mary's tank farm upgrade*, Ruralite magazine
2nd: Amy Murphy, *Village street lights and Summertime*, Ruralite magazine
- 20B Photography in printed publication other than newspaper, feature photo**
1st: Dee Gould, *Chena*, Alaska Women Speak
Hon. Mention: Dee Gould, *View from the Alcan*, Alaska Women Speak
- 20E Photography in printed publication other than newspaper, photo essay**
Hon. Mention: Amy Murphy, *Building up a power plant control module*, Ruralite magazine
Hon. Mention: Amy Murphy, *Chevak's new power plant shipped out*, Ruralite magazine
- 22 Photographer-writer**
1st: Diana Haecker, *'Problem' musk ox shot after charging dogs, cars*, Nome Nugget
Hon. Mention: Pamela Eldridge, *Invasive weeds in Alaska: a spreading threat to the Arctic ecosystem*, BLM Alaska Frontiers
- 24A Prepared report, radio**
2nd: April K. Young, *Wall of honor ceremony*, 99.7 KMBQ
- 25A Special programming, radio**
1st: Jessica Cochran and Steve Heimel, *AK—Statehood 50th anniversary series*, KSKA FM 91.1
2nd: Johanna Eurich and Shannyn Moore, *Forget-me-nots*, KSKA FM 91.1
- 27A "Personal column on air" or critic's review, radio**
1st: Therese Harvey, *Hoonah II scow*, KTOO
- 28A Interview, radio**
1st: Dr. Thad Woodard, *Line One: health care for all*, KSKA FM 91.1
- 30B Best newscast, television**
1st: Sheila Balistreri, *The Morning Edition*, KTUU-TV Ch. 2
- 31A Best presentation, radio**
1st: April K. Young, *Newscast*, Oct. 23, 2008, KMBQ 99.7
- 31B Best presentation, television**
1st: Sheila Balistreri, *The Morning Edition*, KTUU-TV Ch. 2
- 32C Writing for the Web, content for hobby or special interest site**
2nd: Mariah Oxford, *Know your plants: are they poisonous?* www.gardenaut.com/
- 33 Web site edited by entrant**
1st: Sherrie Simmonds, Alaska Housing Finance Corporation Web site, www.ahfc.state.ak.us/
2nd: Natalie J. Harrison, Anchorage Folk Festival Web site, www.anchoragefolkfestival.org/
- 34A Web site development/creation, not-for-profit or educational organization site**
2nd: Natalie J. Harrison, Anchorage Folk Festival Web site, www.anchoragefolkfestival.org/
3rd: Dianne O'Connell, Thelma Buchholdt Web site, www.thelmabuchholdt.com/
Hon. Mention: Dianne O'Connell, Presbytery of Yukon Web site, www.yukonpresbytery.com/
- 36B Single advertisement—newspaper, trade paper, magazine, newsletter or Web site; black/white, institutional or image**
1st: Amy Murphy, *When the power goes out, we go out*, Ruralite magazine
- 42 Community or institutional relations**
1st: Tammy Ashley, Laurie Wiese and Laura Kotelman, "75210" campaign, Southcentral Foundation

- 43 Public service**
1st: Sherrie Simmonds, “Built to Last” campaign, Alaska Housing Finance Corporation
2nd: Tammy Ashley, Vera Starbard and Jordan Craddick, Southcentral Foundation 2008 11th Annual Gathering
- 47A Annual report, external**
1st: Tina M. Adair, Alaska Conservation Foundation 2007-2008 annual report and 2009 calendar
2nd: Sherrie Simmonds, *AHFC 2007 annual report: It feels good to be home*, Alaska Housing Finance Corp.
- 47B Annual report, internal**
1st: Amy Murphy, *AVEC Annual Report*, Alaska Village Electric Co-op
- 50A Newsletter, one- to three-color**
1st: Elise Patkotak and Noe Texeira, *The Flight Feather*, Bird Treatment and Learning Center
- 50B Newsletter, four-color**
1st: Vera Starbard, Jessica Dorrington and Marie Stewman, *Anchorage Native News*, Southcentral Foundation
2nd: Natalie J. Harrison, *FMS Update*, Spring 2008 Newsletter, Federal Management Systems, Inc.
3rd: Natalie J. Harrison, *FMS Update*, Summer 2008 Newsletter, Federal Management Systems, Inc.
- 51B Brochure, four-color**
1st: Katie Bausler, *UAS Viewbook 2008-2009*, U. of Alaska Southeast
- 53 Direct mail marketing**
1st: Sherrie Simmonds, AHFC weatherization and energy rebate program, statewide mailer, Alaska Housing Finance Corporation
- 55A Single news release**
1st: Kalei Brooks, *Alaska Air National Guard assists in helicopter crash rescue*, Alaska Dept. of Military and Veterans Affairs
- 55B Single feature release**
1st: Kalei Brooks, *Pararescueman saves more than 100 lives in 25-year career*, Alaska Dept. of Military and Veterans Affairs
- 58 Speech**
1st: Sherrie Simmonds, 2008 AHFC employee recognition luncheon speech, Alaska Housing Finance Corporation
- 72C Non-fiction book, biography and autobiography**
2nd: Linda Kay Thompson, *It’s okay, Mom*
- 72D Non-fiction book, history**
1st: Steven C. Levi, *Boom and bust in the Alaska goldfields*
- 73 Fiction, novel**
1st: Stan Jones, *Frozen sun*
- 74B Children’s books, non-fiction**
1st: Dianne Barske, *How do you say goodbye to an elephant—Maggie leaves Alaska*
2nd: Katherine M. Hocker and Mary F. Willson, *The singer in the stream*
- 75B Young adult books, non-fiction**
1st: Steven C. Levi, *Cowboys of the sky—the story of Alaska’s bush pilots*
- 78 Book edited by entrant**
1st: Judith Fuerst Griffin, *Middle Koyukuk River of Alaska: an atlas of fishing places and traditional place names*
Hon. Mention: Mariah Oxford, *Undersea odyssey*

2009 CONTEST SWEEPSTAKES WINNER — Amy Murphy

About the Judges

SAM KINCH

Categories 1-10 (print journalistic writing)

Sam Kinch Jr. was a prizewinning reporter on Texas politics and government for 37 years before he retired in 1998. An honors graduate of the University of Texas, from which he earned a bachelor's degree in history and a master's in journalism, he was editor of the student newspaper, *The Daily Texan*. He began covering the Texas legislature in 1961, then moved to Washington to cover Texas members of Congress for six years for the *Dallas Times-Herald* and *Dallas Morning News*. In 1970 he returned to Austin, where he was state political editor for the *Morning News* until 1984, when he left to found *Texas Weekly*, the largest political newspaper in the state, which he sold in 1998. He has written three books on Texas politics. He is married, with three grown children and five grandchildren "spread all over the country."

VICKI RISHLING and REBECCA J. "BECKY" TALLENT, University of Idaho

Categories 11-17 (editing and layout) and 72-78 (books)

Vicki Rishling, a longtime newspaper editor and reporter, holds a master's degree in journalism from Ohio State University, where she was a Kiplinger fellow in 2002. She is a senior lecturer for journalism classes at the University of Idaho's School of Journalism and Mass Media in Moscow, Idaho.

Rebecca J. "Becky" Tallent is an award-winning journalist with more than 30 years' experience as a journalist and public relations specialist. She is an assistant professor of journalism and mass media at the University of Idaho. Becky has been active in the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) since 1972 and currently serves on her chapter's Board of Directors. She is also active in the Native American Journalists Association. She has bachelor's and master's degrees in journalism from the University of Central Oklahoma and a Doctor of Education in Mass Communications degree from Oklahoma State University.

HEATHER ANNE THOMAS

Categories 18-22 (photography)

Heather Anne Thomas attended Hollins College and graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a BFA in studio art and a BA in art history. She has been working in the commercial photo industry since 2000, refining her skills in Houston, Texas and New York City. She has a photography studio in Maryville, Tennessee, which specializes in portraiture.

JOHN FOSHOLT

Categories 23-31 (radio and television)

John Fosholt recently retired as a photographer and writer with KUSA television, the NBC affiliate in Denver. He has worked in Denver television news for 32 years as an editor, producer, and investigative journalist. He has a bachelor's degree in journalism from Colorado State University and a master's in Mass Communication from the University of Denver, where he has been teaching television news for about 30 years. He is also vice-president of the Colorado Freedom of Information Council.

WILLIAM BLINN

Categories 32-35 (World Wide Web)

William Blinn is owner of William Blinn Communications, a Web site design and consulting firm. He is a member of the HTML Writers Guild and is the host of TechByter Worldwide, a podcast that discusses high technology in plain English. He developed the Web site for Citizens for Humane Action, a low-kill volunteer pet rescue and adoptions service in Columbus, Ohio, and maintained it for five years. Blinn's own Web sites include <http://www.blinn.com> and <http://www.techbyter.com>.

RUTH ANNA

Categories 36-41 (Advertising, electronic and print); 42-57 (Public relations, promotion, publicity); and 58 (Speeches)

Ruth Anna founded Anna Public Relations Consultants in the Denver area in 1977. She has more than 30 years of diversified experience in both the private and public arenas. Her clients include professional associations, scientific firms, human service and nonprofit agencies, businesses, government agencies, and political candidates. Her services include speech and report writing and editing, media relations, crisis management, workshops and seminars, publications, campaign management, fund raising, and event management. She's a past president of the National Federation of Press Women and Colorado Press Women, and has served on the Colorado Freedom of Information Council since 1987.

Categories 59-68 constitute a separate contest for undergraduate college students. Alaska had no entries in this competition—but we'd like some next year!