



## PRESS RELEASE

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### Nevada Press Foundation Honors Top Journalism at Awards of Excellence Banquet

Fallon, NV – The Nevada Press Foundation celebrated the state’s finest journalism at its annual Awards of Excellence Dinner on Saturday, September 20, 2025, in Fallon. The evening, generously sponsored by Southwest Gas, brought together journalists, editors, photographers, and designers from across Nevada to honor outstanding achievements in reporting, design, advertising, and community service.

Among the evening’s most prestigious honors were the **Sweepstakes Awards**, recognizing overall excellence in key categories. This year’s winners include:

- **Community Service**
  - *Urban*) – Tabitha Mueller, *The Nevada Independent*
  - *Rural* – Kurt Hildebrand, *The Record-Courier*
  - *Magazine* – Christopher Alvarez, *Desert Companion*
- **Freedom of the Press**
  - Kelsey Penrose & Eric Neugeboren, *The Nevada Independent*
- **Advertising General Excellence**
  - *Urban* – Staff, *Reno News & Review*
  - *Rural* – Staff, *The Record-Courier*
  - *Magazine* – Jaci Goodman, *edible Reno Tahoe*
- **General Excellence – Print**
  - *Rural* – Staff, *The Record-Courier*
  - *Magazine* – Staff, *edible Reno Tahoe*
  - *Magazine* – Staff, *RJ Magazine*
- **General Online Excellence**
  - *Urban* – Staff, *The Nevada Independent*
  - *Rural* – Ben Rowley & Brendon Schumaker, *Lincoln County Record*
  - *Magazine* – Cheree Boteler, *edible Reno Tahoe*
  - *College* – Tatum Gogna, Beatrice Bashibyukyan & Kaitlynn Romero, *Nevada Ag News*

- **Journalist of Merit**
  - Eric Neugeboren, *The Nevada Independent*
- **Outstanding Journalists**
  - Hillary Davis, *Las Vegas Sun*
  - Mary Hynes, *Las Vegas Review-Journal*
- **Outstanding Graphic Designer**
  - Lauren Solinger, *Lahontan Valley News*
- **Outstanding Visual Journalist**
  - L.E. Baskow, *Las Vegas Review-Journal*
- **Editorial of the Year**
  - Kristen Hackbarth & Bob Conrad, *This Is Reno*
- **Story of the Year**
  - Mark Robison, *Reno Gazette-Journal*
- **Photo of the Year**
  - Jason Bean, *Reno Gazette-Journal*
- **Editorial Cartoon of the Year**
  - Mike Smith, *Las Vegas Sun*
- **Podcast of the Year**
  - Tabitha Mueller, Eric Neugeboren & Isabella Aldrete, *The Nevada Independent*
- **Video of the Year**
  - Rachel Aston, Alan Halaly & Katie Futterman, *Las Vegas Review-Journal*

“These awards reflect the critical role Nevada journalists play in keeping our communities informed, engaged, and connected,” said **Brian Allfrey, Executive Director of the Nevada Press Association and Nevada Press Foundation**. “We are proud to recognize the incredible talent and dedication across all divisions of Nevada media.”

The evening also highlighted hundreds of category winners across writing, photography, advertising, and design, underscoring the depth of Nevada’s vibrant press community.