

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OFFICERS**

**President**  
*Steve Brown*  
*Dallas Morning News*

**Vice President**  
*Michelle Jarboe*  
*The Plain Dealer*

**Second Vice President**  
*Michael Walsh*  
*The Real Reporter*

**Treasurer**  
*Dion Haynes*  
*Washington Post*

**Chairman of the Board**  
*Shonda Novak*  
*Austin American-Statesman*

**ACTIVE DIRECTORS**  
*Katherine Clarke*  
*The Real Deal*

*Beth DeCarbo*  
*Wall Street Journal*

*Jason Hidalgo*  
*Reno Gazette-Journal*

*Camilla McLaughlin*  
*Freelance Writer*

*Daniel Taub*  
*Bloomberg News*

*J. Scott Trubey*  
*Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

**ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS**  
*Steve Cook*  
*Real Estate Economy Watch*

*Elizabeth Razzi*  
*Urban Land magazine*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
*Mary Doyle-Kimball*  
NAREE

**NAREE's 66th Annual Real Estate Journalism  
Award Winners Announced**

NEW ORLEANS - (June 10, 2016) The National Association of Real Estate Editors (NAREE) today announced the winners of its 66th Annual Journalism Awards, recognizing excellence in reporting, writing and editing stories about residential and commercial real estate.

Josh Salman, Sarasota Herald-Tribune, received NAREE's Platinum Award for Best Individual Entry.

The President's Gold Award for Best Freelance Collection went to Ken Harney of the Washington Post Writers Group. Ralph Bivins of Realty News Report, earned the Silver Award and Eugene Meyer, freelance writer, New York Times, took the Bronze.

Konrad Putzier of The Real Deal was the Gold Award Winner of the Ruth Ryon Award for Best Young Journalist for reporters 30 years old and younger. Nick Nehemas, Miami Herald, won the Silver Award in the Young Journalist category. The Bronze Award went to Greg Vellante, TechHome Builder.

NAREE presented the awards June 10, 2016, at its 50th Annual Real Estate Journalism Conference at Harrah's Hotel in New Orleans.

A panel of expert judges from the E.W. Scripps School of Journalism at Ohio University selected all award winners. Professor Emeritus Patrick S. Washburn, a former news reporter and editor, chaired the panel. Here are the 2016 winners with judge's comments:

**Best Overall Individual Entry**

**Platinum Award Winner: Josh Salman**, Sarasota Herald-Tribune

Judge's Comment on Platinum Winner: "The reporter exposed a government program, known as the EB-5 visa, which was prone to international corruption. His investigation not only touched on real estate but matters of national security. Mining a treasure trove of 50 interviews, thousands of court cases, and property records, which resulted in building an impressive data base, the story led on the following day to a U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission announcement to crack down on EB-5 enforcement."

**President's Award for Best Freelance Collection**

**Gold Winner: Ken Harney**, The Washington Post Writers Group

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "This columnist is a strong advocate of readers. Whether he is writing about Zillow's 'Zestimates,' possible unethical practices by real estate agents, or hackers who get personal information that could affect those claiming a mortgage exemption, he always gives helpful, and in many cases valuable, advice. His work stands tall in real estate journalism."



[www.NAREE.org](http://www.NAREE.org)  
1003 NW 6th Terrace  
Boca Raton, Florida 33486  
561.391.3599  
FAX: 561.391.0099

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OFFICERS**

**President**

*Steve Brown  
Dallas Morning News*

**Vice President**

*Michelle Jarboe  
The Plain Dealer*

**Second Vice President**

*Michael Walsh  
The Real Reporter*

**Treasurer**

*Dion Haynes  
Washington Post*

**Chairman of the Board**

*Shonda Novak  
Austin American-Statesman*

**ACTIVE DIRECTORS**

*Katherine Clarke  
The Real Deal*

*Beth DeCarbo  
Wall Street Journal*

*Jason Hidalgo  
Reno Gazette-Journal*

*Camilla McLaughlin  
Freelance Writer*

*Daniel Taub  
Bloomberg News*

*J. Scott Trubey  
Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

**ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS**

*Steve Cook  
Real Estate Economy Watch*

*Elizabeth Razzi  
Urban Land magazine*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

*Mary Doyle-Kimball  
NAREE*

**Silver Winner: Ralph Bivins**, Freelance Journalist, Realty News Report

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "This writer covers Houston real estate like a glove. Whether he is writing about new building construction methods, the future of the Astrodome, or the acquisition of the land and the building of a new campus of ExxonMobil, he gives readers new insights into area real estate. He is a must read."

**Bronze Winner: Eugene Meyer**, Freelance Writer, New York Times

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "The writer demonstrates wide versatility in covering the changing real estate face of Washington. Stories entered in this year's contest included the changing demographics of a neighborhood, a broad development plan near Union Station, and a controversy that has divided a neighborhood over what may or may not be a historic site worth saving. He incorporated a deep knowledge of Washington history into most of his articles."

**Ruth Ryon Award for Best Entry by a Young Journalist**

**Gold Winner: Konrad Putzier**, The Real Deal

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "This reporter is comfortable covering a wide variety of stories, from the sale of high-cost properties to crowdfunding to a comparison of upscale properties in New York City to London and Hong Kong. The judges particularly applaud his story that revealed a \$144 million "loan" to the Blackstone Group, which was announced by the New York City mayor, was really a freebie that the company would never have to pay back. That was a great piece of journalism."

**Silver Winner: Nick Nehamas**, Miami Herald

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "The reporter gathered data on home values, Florida Department of Education school ratings, and crime statistics for 113 zip codes. The mission was to identify well priced neighborhoods with average or better schools and lower levels of crimes. The resulting interactive tool was an outstanding public service. The newspaper identified trends and mapped them light years ahead of real estate agents themselves, thus predicting industry trends."

**Bronze Winner: Greg Vellante**, TecHome Builder

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "In one of the contest's most interesting stories, the reporter offered a laugh-out-loud look at the inspiration of Professor Dumpster in the high tech world of tiny housing. Cool interactives and art welcomed readers to the future. Particularly striking was how someone living in a dumpster rather quickly and unbelievably became a business success with small housing."

**Category 1: Best Collection of Work by an Individual Covering Residential Real Estate**

**Gold Winner: Michelle Jarboe**, The Plain Dealer



[www.NAREE.org](http://www.NAREE.org)  
1003 NW 6th Terrace  
Boca Raton, Florida 33486  
561.391.3599  
FAX: 561.391.0099



[www.NAREE.org](http://www.NAREE.org)  
 1003 NW 6th Terrace  
 Boca Raton, Florida 33486  
 561.391.3599  
 FAX: 561.391.0099

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
 OFFICERS**

**President**

*Steve Brown  
 Dallas Morning News*

**Vice President**

*Michelle Jarboe  
 The Plain Dealer*

**Second Vice President**

*Michael Walsh  
 The Real Reporter*

**Treasurer**

*Dion Haynes  
 Washington Post*

**Chairman of the Board**

*Shonda Novak  
 Austin American-Statesman*

**ACTIVE DIRECTORS**

*Katherine Clarke  
 The Real Deal*

*Beth DeCarbo  
 Wall Street Journal*

*Jason Hidalgo  
 Reno Gazette-Journal*

*Camilla McLaughlin  
 Freelance Writer*

*Daniel Taub  
 Bloomberg News*

*J. Scott Trubey  
 Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

**ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS**

*Steve Cook  
 Real Estate Economy Watch*

*Elizabeth Razzi  
 Urban Land magazine*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

*Mary Doyle-Kimball  
 NAREE*

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "This reporter offers solid, interesting writing on a wide range of stories from the super wealthy to rust belt carcasses. Particularly standing out was a story about the prices of rental homes in Cleveland for the Republican National Convention this summer. She provides context and detail with hotlinks and maps."

**Silver Winner: Jason Blevins, Denver Post**

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "This reporter's stories have engaging leads and strong narrative structures. He uses colorful, in-depth details, with a lot of interviews, to examine issues in the Rocky Mountain area. A good example was his story about resorts struggling to survive side by side with homelessness."

**Bronze Winner: Marilyn Kalfus, Orange County Register**

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "The Orange County Register gives this reporter great play and the opportunity to write on a wide spectrum of real estate topics. These range from the nuts and bolts of crowd funding a purchase to coming up with a sales price for an over-the-top cartoonish house worthy of Fred Flintstone."

**Honorable Mention Winner: Audrey Hoffer, Freelance Writer, The Washington Post**

Judge's Comment on Honorable Mention Winner: "This writer does a good job with stories that emphasize aesthetic qualities, whether in a 1920 kit house or in gardens designed to be living spaces. Thanks to this reporter, the Washington Post real estate section is a more beautiful space."

**Category 2: Best Collection of Work by an Individual Covering Commercial Real Estate**

**Gold Winner: Eugene Meyer, Freelance Writer, The New York Times**

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "The writer demonstrated his versatility in covering the changing real estate face of Washington. Stories included the changing demographics of a neighborhood, a broad development plan near Union Station, and a controversy that has divided a neighborhood over what may or may not be a historic site worth saving. He incorporated a deep knowledge of Washington history into most of his stories."

**Silver Winner: Robyn Friedman, Freelance Writer, The Wall Street Journal**

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "This reporter, who has covered the real estate industry for two decades, has developed a nose for finding trends. These include repurposing churches, sale-leaseback deals, and builders buying in bulk in south Florida. The stories were highly readable and well sourced."

**Bronze Winner: Sanjay Bhatt, Seattle Times**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### OFFICERS

#### President

Steve Brown  
*Dallas Morning News*

#### Vice President

Michelle Jarboe  
*The Plain Dealer*

#### Second Vice President

Michael Walsh  
*The Real Reporter*

#### Treasurer

Dion Haynes  
*Washington Post*

#### Chairman of the Board

Shonda Novak  
*Austin American-Statesman*

### ACTIVE DIRECTORS

Katherine Clarke  
*The Real Deal*

Beth DeCarbo  
*Wall Street Journal*

Jason Hidalgo  
*Reno Gazette-Journal*

Camilla McLaughlin  
Freelance Writer

Daniel Taub  
*Bloomberg News*

J. Scott Trubey  
*Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

### ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

Steve Cook  
*Real Estate Economy Watch*

Elizabeth Razzi  
*Urban Land magazine*

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mary Doyle-Kimball  
NAREE

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "This reporter is comfortable with all types of news from breaking to enterprise to in-depth profiles. He also has the tenacity to search through mountains of public records. The end result is that readers are well served with his stories."

#### Honorable Mention Winner: Mark Maurer, The Real Deal

Judge's Comment on Honorable Mention Winner: "This reporter is tenacious and is known for writing about people who do not want to be in the limelight. He has deep expertise in the players who have shaped the New York City skyline."

#### Category 3: Best Column

##### Gold Winner: Ken Harney, Washington Post Writers Group

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "This column brought new meaning to buyers beware—real estate agents may not show houses if they are offered subpar commissions. This is probably under the radar of most home buyers because real estate agents do not want to talk about it. And yet, the columnist got some agents to justify this practice."

##### Silver Winner: Jonathan O'Connell, The Washington Post

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "This is old-fashioned advocacy in the tradition of Joseph Pulitzer. The columnist examined the idyllic plans to upgrade Washington for the 2024 Olympics and asked a daring and obvious question: Even though the city lost the bid, why couldn't it build the dream? Since the column was published, it has been getting traction with businesses and public officials."

##### Bronze Winner: Jon Anderson, CandysDirt.com/ SecondShelters

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "The columnist took readers on a great ride, pondering such things as how the evolution of women's roles in society have evolved and what that has to do with interior design. Women are no longer relegated to some dark, backroom kitchen. Yet home exteriors cling to the past with styles that are copies of bygone eras. This was a thoughtful retrospective on design with belly laughs."

##### Honorable Mention Winner: Richard Mize, Oklahoman/ NewsOK.com

Judge's Comment on Honorable Mention Winner: "The columnist's understanding of Oklahoma history, including the Cherokee's Trail of Tears, gave him a deep perspective on the story of a 2015 Georgia land auction. The 483-acre property was touted with its connections to John C. Calhoun, the seventh vice president of the U.S., but the seller did not mention, or did not know, that Calhoun got the property because the Cherokees were kicked out. After publication of this column, the sale went nowhere."

#### Category 4: Best Economic Analysis

##### Gold Winner: Jason Blevins, Denver Post



[www.NAREE.org](http://www.NAREE.org)  
 1003 NW 6th Terrace  
 Boca Raton, Florida 33486  
 561.391.3599  
 FAX: 561.391.0099

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**OFFICERS**

**President**

*Steve Brown  
 Dallas Morning News*

**Vice President**

*Michelle Jarboe  
 The Plain Dealer*

**Second Vice President**

*Michael Walsh  
 The Real Reporter*

**Treasurer**

*Dion Haynes  
 Washington Post*

**Chairman of the Board**

*Shonda Novak  
 Austin American-Statesman*

**ACTIVE DIRECTORS**

*Katherine Clarke  
 The Real Deal*

*Beth DeCarbo  
 Wall Street Journal*

*Jason Hidalgo  
 Reno Gazette-Journal*

*Camilla McLaughlin  
 Freelance Writer*

*Daniel Taub  
 Bloomberg News*

*J. Scott Trubey  
 Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

**ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS**

*Steve Cook  
 Real Estate Economy Watch*

*Elizabeth Razzi  
 Urban Land magazine*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

*Mary Doyle-Kimball  
 NAREE*

Judge’s Comment on Gold Winner: “This was a detailed analysis of what happens when communities are deluged with property conversions as homeowners react to the home away from home vacation trend. It was filled with stories of real people and backed up with compelling data. The reporter discussed how communities are reacting to what is occurring, including the possibility of passing new legislation.”

**Silver Winner: Emilie Rusch, Denver Post**

Judge’s Comment on Silver Winner: “There is a law of unintended consequences, and it has bluntly smacked Colorado in the face. The reporter described how legalization of marijuana has gobbled up empty real estate in Denver, causing competition among developers and raising rental rates. Is pot good for Denver? It depends on whom you ask and what they have been smoking. The answer could leave you feeling a mile high.”

**Bronze Winner: Sue Doerfler, Arizona Republic/azcentral.com**

Judge’s Comment on Bronze Winner: “The reporter got a break — a gift of an early copy of an Arizona Gaming Commission report on the \$1.8 billion impact of Indian gaming on the state’s economy. She did more than summarize, adding multiple interviews and analysis to explain the report to the public on its release.”

**Honorable Mention Winner: Prashant Gopal, Bloomberg News**

Judge’s Comment on Honorable Mention Winner: “The reporter examined how first-time buyers are finding ways into high dollar markets: by demanding cheaper, smaller, and more basic homes. The economics suggest developers can make a lot of money from many small deals just as they can from a lesser number of big deals. The writer mixed in a lot of data with personalizing interviews.”

**Category 5: Best Interior Design Story**

**Gold Winner: Amy Gamerman, The Wall Street Journal**

Judge’s Comment on Gold Winner: “This story was so much fun—if you do not want to have a party barn, something is wrong with you. The reporter documented the transformation of old souls to belles of the ball across the country. Photographs invited readers in and put them on the dance floor.”

**Silver Winner: Nancy Keates, The Wall Street Journal**

Judge’s Comment on Silver Winner: “This story about Barbie penthouses was fun to read and informative. Sometimes you get meat and potatoes and sometimes you get dessert, and in this story you got both. The pictures that went along with the article added to the Barbie aura of what was written.”

**Bronze Winner: Jura Koncius, The Washington Post**



[www.NAREE.org](http://www.NAREE.org)  
 1003 NW 6th Terrace  
 Boca Raton, Florida 33486  
 561.391.3599  
 FAX: 561.391.0099

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**OFFICERS**

**President**

*Steve Brown  
 Dallas Morning News*

**Vice President**

*Michelle Jarboe  
 The Plain Dealer*

**Second Vice President**

*Michael Walsh  
 The Real Reporter*

**Treasurer**

*Dion Haynes  
 Washington Post*

**Chairman of the Board**

*Shonda Novak  
 Austin American-Statesman*

**ACTIVE DIRECTORS**

*Katherine Clarke  
 The Real Deal*

*Beth DeCarbo  
 Wall Street Journal*

*Jason Hidalgo  
 Reno Gazette-Journal*

*Camilla McLaughlin  
 Freelance Writer*

*Daniel Taub  
 Bloomberg News*

*J. Scott Trubey  
 Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

**ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS**

*Steve Cook  
 Real Estate Economy Watch*

*Elizabeth Razzi  
 Urban Land magazine*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

*Mary Doyle-Kimball  
 NAREE*

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "This online piece about a designer making over her 565-square-foot apartment was a treat to read. It was part real world and part fantasy. The writer was willing to share her backstory about how divorce changed her life and her space. The photographs were used with extreme intelligence, and it helped having a slider to toggle back and forth between before and after pictures."

**Honorable Mention Winner: Harold Bubil**, Sarasota Herald-Tribune

Judge's Comment on Honorable Mention Winner: "The reporter highlighted a trend, universal design, that helps older people stay in their homes longer. The package blended a solid narrative with effective photographs. Particularly interesting features included a beautiful roll-in shower and non-slip floors."

**Category 6: Best Photo by a Real Estate Journalist**

**Gold Winner: Sam Black**, Minneapolis-St. Paul Business Journal

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "In a photograph reminiscent of the movie 'The Revenant,' the journalist showed a gloomy, snow-covered housing tract on the outskirts of the Twin Cities in Minnesota. The mood of the picture matched what was written about, and it is not far fetched to believe that a professional photographer might have taken much the same type of picture. The paper's designer said it was the first time that an iPhone picture was used as the centerpiece art on page one."

**Silver Winner: Carole Hawkins**, Freelance Writer

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "This photograph peeled away the exterior layers to reveal the potential beauty of a northeast Florida former bank building that was being renovated. The picture revealed the care that was being taken in the process."

**Category 7: Best Architecture Story**

**Gold Winner: Nancy Keates**, The Wall Street Journal

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "Some married people are happier living alone. However, a Rhode Island couple, who had been married for more than two decades and had raised children, bought a downtown loft and had it converted into his and hers apartments, each reflecting their personalities and preferences. They were happy with this arrangement, and the reporter raised the questions of whether this might be good for others."

**Silver Winner: Anny Shin**, The Washington Post

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "The reporter interviewed an expert on shipping containers, who called them 'the best thing since the brick,' and promoted them as a possible solution to the housing crisis of overcrowding and overpricing. What set this story apart was the writer quietly observing the expert as he interacted with various publics. The reporter then zoomed out for a big picture look at a trend that is here to stay."

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OFFICERS**

**President**

*Steve Brown*  
*Dallas Morning News*

**Vice President**

*Michelle Jarboe*  
*The Plain Dealer*

**Second Vice President**

*Michael Walsh*  
*The Real Reporter*

**Treasurer**

*Dion Haynes*  
*Washington Post*

**Chairman of the Board**

*Shonda Novak*  
*Austin American-Statesman*

**ACTIVE DIRECTORS**

*Katherine Clarke*  
*The Real Deal*

*Beth DeCarbo*  
*Wall Street Journal*

*Jason Hidalgo*  
*Reno Gazette-Journal*

*Camilla McLaughlin*  
*Freelance Writer*

*Daniel Taub*  
*Bloomberg News*

*J. Scott Trubey*  
*Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

**ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS**

*Steve Cook*  
*Real Estate Economy Watch*

*Elizabeth Razzi*  
*Urban Land magazine*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

*Mary Doyle-Kimball*  
NAREE

**Bronze Winner: Ralph Bivins**, Freelance Journalist, Urban Land Magazine

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "This reporter looked past the finger wagging and head shaking that often comes with stories about decrepit sports arenas left empty as teams move to more posh digs. It breathed life into the history of America's first domed stadium in the mid-1960s. Now the big question is: What to do with it? The reporters laid out the options in a highly readable, conversational story."

**Honorable Mention Winner: Kathryn Brenzel**, The Real Deal

Judge's Comment on Honorable Mention Winner: "The rest of the world has caught onto the possibilities of building mid-town towers out of wood. The writer explored whether New York City was ready for such a movement, interviewing developers, architects, construction experts, and brokers. The big question was not whether it will work but the perception that the words 'wooden towers' conveys danger."

**Category 8: Best Residential Real Estate Story in a Daily Newspaper**

**Gold Winner: Nicholas Nehamas**, Miami Herald

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "The reporter gathered data on home values, Florida Department of Education school ratings, and crime statistics for 113 zip codes. The mission was to identify well priced neighborhoods with average or better schools and lower levels of crimes. The resulting interactive tool was an outstanding public service. The newspaper identified trends and mapped them light years ahead of real estate agents themselves, thus predicting industry trends."

**Silver Winner: Amy Gamerman**, The Wall Street Journal

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "Although you have to be wealthy to have one of these homes, it is interesting to read about people who build country residences that are particularly structured to watch wildlife. The reporter adds a cautionary note that wildlife do not always appear where they are supposed to and when they are supposed to. The photographs enhance what is written."

**Bronze Winner: Stefanos Chen**, The Wall Street Journal

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "This is a scary look at how real estate agents are buying data and identifying potential customers by using precise online metrics. It used to be that agents scanned obituaries for prospective properties, but now there is a twentieth-century version. The reporter does a good job of explaining how this works for non-techies."

**Honorable Mention Winner: Scott Sowers and Marcie Geffner**, Freelance Writers, The Washington Post

Judge's Comment on Honorable Mention Winner: "We all wish we were the Jetsons, and now we can see it from here, thanks to these reporters' real world, futuristic look. This story provides a compelling look at a house that leaves no carbon footprint."

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OFFICERS**

**President**

*Steve Brown  
Dallas Morning News*

**Vice President**

*Michelle Jarboe  
The Plain Dealer*

**Second Vice President**

*Michael Walsh  
The Real Reporter*

**Treasurer**

*Dion Haynes  
Washington Post*

**Chairman of the Board**

*Shonda Novak  
Austin American-Statesman*

**ACTIVE DIRECTORS**

*Katherine Clarke  
The Real Deal*

*Beth DeCarbo  
Wall Street Journal*

*Jason Hidalgo  
Reno Gazette-Journal*

*Camilla McLaughlin  
Freelance Writer*

*Daniel Taub  
Bloomberg News*

*J. Scott Trubey  
Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

**ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS**

*Steve Cook  
Real Estate Economy Watch*

*Elizabeth Razzi  
Urban Land magazine*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

*Mary Doyle-Kimball  
NAREE*

**Honorable Mention Winner: Audrey Hoffer**, Freelance  
Writer, The Washington Post

Judge's Comment on Honorable Mention Winner: "The reporter offers a nostalgic look at an American original—Sears catalog kit homes built in the D.C. area in the early twentieth century. The writer talks to people who believe that the homes should be preserved despite the push to bulldoze them and build mansions. It is a wonderful piece of history."

**Category 9: Best Mortgage or Financial Real Estate Story in a Daily Newspaper**

**Gold Winner: Mary Shanklin**, Orlando Sentinel

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "This reporter effectively wove the story of an elderly woman forced out of her condo and showed how a 2007 Florida law made it legal. When the housing bubble burst in 2008, developers in the state took over an astounding number of condos (11,000). A state representative used this story as leverage to push for new laws empowering condo owners."

**Silver Winner: Ken Harney**, The Washington Post Writers Group

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "The reporter discovered that the private tax data of hundreds of thousands of Americans was vulnerable to disclosure by hackers, who breached IRS security. Despite sounding the warning bell in this story, little has changed. This story should unsettle any homeowner claiming a mortgage exemption."

**Bronze Winner: June Fletcher**, Naples Daily News

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "Middle-of-the-road homebuyers often get ignored. They make too much money to qualify for affordable housing programs but not enough to save for a down payment. The reporter identified the return of purchasing with a low down payment, a possible trigger for the housing bubble fiasco of 2008, and offered ways that cash-strapped buyers might be able to cough up enough to afford a home."

**Honorable Mention Winner: Michele Lerner**, Freelance  
Writer, The Washington Post

Judge's Comment on Honorable Mention Winner: "This was a primer for would-be homeowners who do not know how to take the first step to home ownership. It was intimidating to be sure, but the reporter took neophytes by the hand and showed them the way. It was a true public service."

**Category 10: Best Commercial Real Estate Story in a Daily Newspaper**

**Gold Winner: Jonathan O'Connell**, The Washington Post



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### OFFICERS

#### President

*Steve Brown*  
*Dallas Morning News*

#### Vice President

*Michelle Jarboe*  
*The Plain Dealer*

#### Second Vice President

*Michael Walsh*  
*The Real Reporter*

#### Treasurer

*Dion Haynes*  
*Washington Post*

#### Chairman of the Board

*Shonda Novak*  
*Austin American-Statesman*

### ACTIVE DIRECTORS

*Katherine Clarke*  
*The Real Deal*

*Beth DeCarbo*  
*Wall Street Journal*

*Jason Hidalgo*  
*Reno Gazette-Journal*

*Camilla McLaughlin*  
Freelance Writer

*Daniel Taub*  
*Bloomberg News*

*J. Scott Trubey*  
*Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

### ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

*Steve Cook*  
*Real Estate Economy Watch*

*Elizabeth Razzi*  
*Urban Land magazine*

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*Mary Doyle-Kimball*  
NAREE

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "Covering his own boss, the reporter did a masterful job of capturing the behind-the-scenes drama of the acquisition of the Washington Post, this time from the riveting real estate angle. Also through the real estate prism, readers saw the seismic shift of the news business and what kinds of spaces thriving media companies need to compete in this environment. The reporter conducted a large number of interviews, including some with the top executives, and was surprised how much some of them told him."

**Silver Winner: Robyn Friedman**, Freelance Writer, The Wall Street Journal

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "As church memberships shrink around the country and church income declines as well, many congregations are looking for ways to find new sources of money. While the top choice is to sell and move, this reporter found a new trend of churches pairing with developers to repurpose church buildings for daycare and other non-religious purposes."

**Bronze Winner: C.J. Hughes**, Freelance Journalist, New York Times

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "The reporter zoomed in nicely on a growing trend, indoor vertical farming, that might help enliven an ailing industrial area in Newark, New Jersey. Can the buy-local-food craze help infuse new life into urban wastelands? The reporter deserves credit for balancing the optimism with hard facts about similar operations that have failed. It was fun to read about and fun to imagine."

**Honorable Mention Winner: Katherine Sayre**, NOLA.com/TimesPicayune

Judge's Comment on Honorable Mention Winner: "Charity Hospital, a beloved landmark in New Orleans, has stood vacant since the devastation of Hurricane Katrina in 2005. The reporter examined economic and real estate trends that might impact the hospital's future, including the possible development of a medical corridor."

### Category 11: Best Small Daily Newspaper Story

**Gold Winner: Josh Salman**, Sarasota Herald-Tribune

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "Southwest Florida flippers, some operating illegally or questionably, are finding a way to make money. This reporter laid out a complicated process in a clear and concise story, based on the examination of more than 5,000 real estate records. A true public service, the story appealed to laymen with a glossary of terms."

**Silver Winner: Rosalie Murphy**, Desert Sun

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### OFFICERS

#### President

*Steve Brown*  
*Dallas Morning News*

#### Vice President

*Michelle Jarboe*  
*The Plain Dealer*

#### Second Vice President

*Michael Walsh*  
*The Real Reporter*

#### Treasurer

*Dion Haynes*  
*Washington Post*

#### Chairman of the Board

*Shonda Novak*  
*Austin American-Statesman*

### ACTIVE DIRECTORS

*Katherine Clarke*  
*The Real Deal*

*Beth DeCarbo*  
*Wall Street Journal*

*Jason Hidalgo*  
*Reno Gazette-Journal*

*Camilla McLaughlin*  
Freelance Writer

*Daniel Taub*  
*Bloomberg News*

*J. Scott Trubey*  
*Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

### ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

*Steve Cook*  
*Real Estate Economy Watch*

*Elizabeth Razzi*  
*Urban Land magazine*

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*Mary Doyle-Kimball*  
NAREE

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "The reporter used online statistics, graphics, and anecdotes to explore the highest homeowner association fees in the country in Coachella Valley near Palm Springs, California. The result had residents questioning the costs and benefits of fees for such things as golf courses, pools, and landscaping, and opened eyes about comparing associations regionally and nationally."

#### **Bronze Winner: June Fletcher**, Naples Daily News

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "This data-driven story focused on unsustainable rate hikes in southwest Florida with the reporter personalizing the story about elderly and low-income residents. Low wage earners were being squeezed the most, and there was not much that they could do about it. However, government officials and advocacy groups were looking for ways of providing more affordable housing."

#### **Category 12: Best Weekly Newspaper Story**

#### **Gold Winner: Candace Carlisle**, Dallas Business Journal

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "It is not news that development and urban sprawl gobbles up farmland. However, this story puts the reader in an extraordinary spot, standing next to a braying donkey on the storied Haggard family farm, one of the last holdouts in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. The reporter showed how interesting and novel it is that this family continued to hold on to its heritage, which stretched back to before the Civil War."

#### **Silver Winner: Anjali Fluker**, Orlando Business Journal

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "Thorough and highly readable, this story showed the human side or what could have been a purely inside story of tennis—how the United States Tennis Association's national training complex came to be located outside of Orlando. The \$60 million deal was detailed after the reporter worked months to worm details out of the normally reticent retail firm behind it."

#### **Bronze Winner: Sam Black**, Minneapolis-St. Paul Business Journal

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "St. Paul government officials spent a great deal of time and money on the redevelopment of a former Ford truck factory. It was a waste, according to this reporter. He took a novel approach, bookmarking the story with what middle school children wanted in the space, thus showing that city officials had about as much power as the kids. It was a great package, including an aerial photograph, graphics, and a time line."

#### **Category 13: Best Residential, Mortgage or Financial Real Estate Magazine Story, General Circulation**

#### **Gold Winner: John Gittelsohn**, Bloomberg News



[www.NAREE.org](http://www.NAREE.org)  
 1003 NW 6th Terrace  
 Boca Raton, Florida 33486  
 561.391.3599  
 FAX: 561.391.0099

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**OFFICERS**

**President**

*Steve Brown  
 Dallas Morning News*

**Vice President**

*Michelle Jarboe  
 The Plain Dealer*

**Second Vice President**

*Michael Walsh  
 The Real Reporter*

**Treasurer**

*Dion Haynes  
 Washington Post*

**Chairman of the Board**

*Shonda Novak  
 Austin American-Statesman*

**ACTIVE DIRECTORS**

*Katherine Clarke  
 The Real Deal*

*Beth DeCarbo  
 Wall Street Journal*

*Jason Hidalgo  
 Reno Gazette-Journal*

*Camilla McLaughlin  
 Freelance Writer*

*Daniel Taub  
 Bloomberg News*

*J. Scott Trubey  
 Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

**ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS**

*Steve Cook  
 Real Estate Economy Watch*

*Elizabeth Razzi  
 Urban Land magazine*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

*Mary Doyle-Kimball  
 NAREE*

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "The reporter spotted a trend, and found some striking examples of developers starting farms to sell homes around them. He showed that those buying the homes frequently wanted to pick their own lettuce rather than swing a golf club. The story was helped by having far flung examples of this trend from Texas to Virginia to Hawaii."

**Silver Winner: Konrad Putzier, The Real Deal**

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "There are many things that are outstanding about the story of how Stuy Town in New York City was sold for \$5.3 billion. Many press outlets merely attended the press conference announcing the deal, but this reporter turned his story into a behind-the-scenes look at how the sale occurred. The story had a particularly good lead and kicker."

**Bronze Winner: Daniel DiClerico, Consumer Reports**

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "The reporter put together an attractive guide to help buyers and sellers save on the sale of a home. These pragmatic tips, some of which were low cost, some of which were obvious, and some of which were less than obvious, helped guide novices through a sometimes scary and complicated process."

**Category 14: Best Trade Magazine Story**

**Gold Winner: Greg Vellante, TecHome Builder**

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "In one of the contest's most interesting stories, the reporter offered a laugh-out-loud look at the inspiration of Professor Dumpster in the high tech world of tiny housing. Cool interactives and art welcomed readers to the future. Particularly striking was how someone living in a dumpster rather quickly and unbelievably became a business success with small housing."

**Silver Winner: Felicia Oliver, New Home Source**

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "The reporter offered readers a look at something that makes perfect sense but had not been available before: 'test driving' a potential home before buying it in a planned community. The 'test drive' could consist of staying in a furnished house for up to three days or it might be merely having a meal with neighbors. The story offered useful information, including questions to ask and tips on getting the most out of the experience."

**Bronze Winner: Mike Beirne, Professional Builder**

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "Developer Pat Neal was buying real estate when everyone else was selling in Florida during the Great Recession, a time when a whopping half of the builders in the state went out of business. For Neal, not only was it good business, but it was the right thing to do. The reporter did a great job of profiling Neal's family business, which saved hundreds of industry-related jobs in the region."

**Category 15: Best Commercial Trade Magazine Story**

**Gold Winner: Ralph Bivins, Freelance Journalist, Urban Land Magazine**



[www.NAREE.org](http://www.NAREE.org)  
 1003 NW 6th Terrace  
 Boca Raton, Florida 33486  
 561.391.3599  
 FAX: 561.391.0099

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**OFFICERS**

**President**

*Steve Brown  
 Dallas Morning News*

**Vice President**

*Michelle Jarboe  
 The Plain Dealer*

**Second Vice President**

*Michael Walsh  
 The Real Reporter*

**Treasurer**

*Dion Haynes  
 Washington Post*

**Chairman of the Board**

*Shonda Novak  
 Austin American-Statesman*

**ACTIVE DIRECTORS**

*Katherine Clarke  
 The Real Deal*

*Beth DeCarbo  
 Wall Street Journal*

*Jason Hidalgo  
 Reno Gazette-Journal*

*Camilla McLaughlin  
 Freelance Writer*

*Daniel Taub  
 Bloomberg News*

*J. Scott Trubey  
 Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

**ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS**

*Steve Cook  
 Real Estate Economy Watch*

*Elizabeth Razzi  
 Urban Land magazine*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

*Mary Doyle-Kimball  
 NAREE*

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "The reporter did a journeyman's job excavating information on tight-lipped ExxonMobil's acquisition of 385 acres for its new campus north of Houston. The hush-hush deal has major ramifications for development in the area in addition to other resulting changes in ExxonMobil properties around town. The story was startlingly in depth."

**Silver Winner: Mike Consol**, Institutional Real Estate Letter - Americas

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "This story was about the new movement of technology-related companies, who are flush with cash and locked in a ferocious battle to attract and retain the brightest talent money can buy. The reader was treated to Facebook's hacker cave, the Apple mother ship, and Amazon's biospheres. The writer is commended for relying on the history of American companies, which once placed emphasis on the physical spaces of their headquarters. This shows that today's corporate leaders have found their way back to this ethos with most certainly a modern twist."

**Bronze Winner: Mark Maurer**, The Real Deal

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "Using public records and interviews with other parties, the reporter patched together an in-depth portrait of a man shrouded in secrecy who is one of the biggest real estate developers in Brooklyn."

**Honorable Mention Winner: Jeff Shaw**, Seniors Housing Business

Judge's Comment on Honorable Mention Winner: "What a great idea for a story: why ethnic-based senior communities are thriving. The reporter used three case studies—Hispanic, Chinese-American, and Indian—to show how developers were targeting specific ethnicity-based communities. The developers' cultural sensitivity included details such as feng shui-based public spaces."

**Category 16: Best Online Residential, Mortgage or Financial Real Estate Story**

**Gold Winner: Prashant Gopal**, Bloomberg News

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "The reporter offered lively writing about techies on the prairie. Why would anyone move from a glitzy coastal city to flat, Midwestern Lincoln, Nebraska? With engaging graphics and hotlinks, the story answered this surprising question in a fashion that kept readers going to the end. As the reporter showed, housing prices are dramatically lower in Lincoln for hipster 20 somethings."

**Silver Winner: Kathy Orton**, The Washington Post

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "The reporter combined multimedia to invite readers into a Washington home once occupied by Lyndon Johnson's family before he was president. Both contemporary and historic photographs embedded in the story and slide shows made good use of the web. What a great real estate topic on Presidents' Day."

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### OFFICERS

#### President

*Steve Brown*  
*Dallas Morning News*

#### Vice President

*Michelle Jarboe*  
*The Plain Dealer*

#### Second Vice President

*Michael Walsh*  
*The Real Reporter*

#### Treasurer

*Dion Haynes*  
*Washington Post*

#### Chairman of the Board

*Shonda Novak*  
*Austin American-Statesman*

### ACTIVE DIRECTORS

*Katherine Clarke*  
*The Real Deal*

*Beth DeCarbo*  
*Wall Street Journal*

*Jason Hidalgo*  
*Reno Gazette-Journal*

*Camilla McLaughlin*  
Freelance Writer

*Daniel Taub*  
*Bloomberg News*

*J. Scott Trubey*  
*Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

### ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

*Steve Cook*  
*Real Estate Economy Watch*

*Elizabeth Razzi*  
*Urban Land magazine*

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*Mary Doyle-Kimball*  
NAREE

#### Bronze Winner: Amy Hoak, MarketWatch

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "The reporter noted the steady decline of the number of real estate appraisers in the country and showed how this will have an adverse effect on those selling their homes. Photographs, hotlinks, and graphics helped the story immensely and showed why readers should care."

#### Honorable Mention Winner: Maya Srikrishnan, Voice of San Diego

Judge's Comment on Honorable Mention Winner: "What an interesting notion—commuting sometimes daily from Tijuana to nearby San Diego. This article outlined how something that sounds utterly crazy might just work. It made good use of hotlinks in discussing the pros and cons of building, as well as living, in Mexico."

### Category 17: Best Online Commercial Real Estate Story

#### Gold Winner: Michael DeMasi, Albany Business Review

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "This was a fun rags-to-riches read about a popular pub in Albany, N.Y. that sold for a shocking \$3.5 million. When the sale price flabbergasted real estate experts, the reporter convinced the pub owner to open his books to demonstrate that the sale price was appropriate, and he did. Of all of the entries in this category, this story by far demonstrated the most intelligent use of hotlinks to provide context and detail, making it not just a print story on the web. The writing was excellent."

#### Silver Winner: Jennifer Oldham, Bloomberg News

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "Most ghost towns are old, but in North Dakota some of them are new. The reporter documented the dramatic bust following the state's oil boom, and a good use of photographs helped emphasize the words. The photos were integrated into the narrative, but when clicked on, they expanded to full screen, which was a good use of the web."

#### Bronze Winner: Konrad Putzier, The Real Deal

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "The reporter used SEC filings to expose the truth about fees and performance in crowd funding. Graphics and hotlinks enhanced the narrative."

#### Honorable Mention Winner: Randy Drummer, CoStar News

Judge's Comment on Honorable Mention Winner: "Mothballed office spaces in Midwestern downtowns are attracting a younger crowd, who want funky, urban apartment space. The reporter stressed that real estate brokers should pay attention to these office conversions."

### Category 18: Best Tweet Collection (140 characters or less)

#### Gold Winner: Ralph Bivins, Realty News Report

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OFFICERS**

**President**

*Steve Brown  
Dallas Morning News*

**Vice President**

*Michelle Jarboe  
The Plain Dealer*

**Second Vice President**

*Michael Walsh  
The Real Reporter*

**Treasurer**

*Dion Haynes  
Washington Post*

**Chairman of the Board**

*Shonda Novak  
Austin American-Statesman*

**ACTIVE DIRECTORS**

*Katherine Clarke  
The Real Deal*

*Beth DeCarbo  
Wall Street Journal*

*Jason Hidalgo  
Reno Gazette-Journal*

*Camilla McLaughlin  
Freelance Writer*

*Daniel Taub  
Bloomberg News*

*J. Scott Trubey  
Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

**ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS**

*Steve Cook  
Real Estate Economy Watch*

*Elizabeth Razzi  
Urban Land magazine*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

*Mary Doyle-Kimball  
NAREE*

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "The playful tweets drove followers to his web stories, and the tweeter showed that he understood the potential for the medium and used it well. There was a good use of photographs."

**Silver Winner: Holden Lewis, Bankrate.com**

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "The posts were quirky and inviting with links to must reads for real estate followers. The tweeter has his pulse on the real estate industry, even pointing followers to other media outlets."

**Bronze Winner: Katherine Feser, Houston Chronicle**

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "In tweets which were particularly newsworthy, this journalist packed a punch in promoting hard news stories. This reporter clearly knows how to cross platforms. Follow her."

**Category 19: Best Short Blog Post**

**Gold Winner: Katherine Feser, Houston Chronicle**

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "The reporter documented the end of a Houston apartment landmark. Intelligent hotlinks embedded in the blogpost, and a slide show, allowed readers to expand the story as they saw fit."

**Silver Winner: Marilyn Kalfus, Orange County Register**

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "A lavish photo slide show of a \$9.8 million mansion definitely would have caught the attention of viewers. The 7,000-square-foot villa defied belief, and the blogger did a good job of letting the home speak for itself. You had to see it to believe it."

**Bronze Winner: Ralph Bivins, Realty News Report**

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "The blogger introduced readers to an unusual construction method, a tilt wall building, at a Houston factory. The blog was filled with facts in a small amount of space."

**Category 20: Best Audio or Video Report—Broadcast or Online, Radio or Television**

**Gold Winner: Shannon Behnken and James Farquhar, WFLA-TV**

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "In a video report where the pictures say far more than print could convey, the reporter and videographer exposed and embarrassed home owners who lied on real estate disclosure forms about sinkholes. Their tenacious investigation performed a valuable public service that led to the first federal criminal prosecution for this crime."

**Silver Winner: Andrea Medeiros, TechHome Builder**

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "After a couple lost their home to Hurricane Sandy, they came back strong with a LEED-certified structure that used the latest technology options. The video demonstrated many of these, probably awakening the audience to what was possible if someone wanted to have a 'smart' house."

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OFFICERS**

**President**

*Steve Brown  
Dallas Morning News*

**Vice President**

*Michelle Jarboe  
The Plain Dealer*

**Second Vice President**

*Michael Walsh  
The Real Reporter*

**Treasurer**

*Dion Haynes  
Washington Post*

**Chairman of the Board**

*Shonda Novak  
Austin American-Statesman*

**ACTIVE DIRECTORS**

*Katherine Clarke  
The Real Deal*

*Beth DeCarbo  
Wall Street Journal*

*Jason Hidalgo  
Reno Gazette-Journal*

*Camilla McLaughlin  
Freelance Writer*

*Daniel Taub  
Bloomberg News*

*J. Scott Trubey  
Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

**ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS**

*Steve Cook  
Real Estate Economy Watch*

*Elizabeth Razzi  
Urban Land magazine*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

*Mary Doyle-Kimball  
NAREE*

**Category 21: Best Breaking News Story**

**Gold Winner: Konrad Putzier, The Real Deal**

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "The reporter revealed that a \$144 million "loan" to the Blackstone Group, which was announced by the New York City mayor, was really a freebie that the company would never have to pay back. The story came from the reporter reading the fine print and realizing that this was not simply a routine deal, but, in fact, was the city hiding the truth."

**Silver Winner: Rich Bockmann, The Real Deal**

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "After the New York Senate majority leader was charged with corruption, this reporter broke the story that identified an unnamed developer in the complaint who had a relationship with the majority leader. He studied the complaint's language and found enough evidence to identify the developer, and the press then followed his lead in further stories."

**Bronze Winner: Jonathan O'Connell, The Washington Post**

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "In a story written on deadline and filed from the courthouse, the writer pulled together a narrative about a large department store surprisingly winning in court against a mall owner, who wanted to tear the mall down. He managed to craft a story that was worthy enough to land on the front page."

**Honorable Mention Winner: Sarah Tilton, Freelance Writer, The Wall Street Journal**

Judge's Comment on Honorable Mention Winner: "Acting on a tip, this reporter uncovered the identity of a Chinese billionaire buyer of a 28,100-acre exclusive tract in the Adirondacks with the goal of preserving the wilderness."

**Category 22: Best Investigative Report or Investigative Series**

**Gold Winner: Janet Day, Denise M. Bonilla, Carl MacGowan, Deon J. Hampton and Maura McDermott, Newsday**

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "Zombie houses, which are abandoned, dilapidated structures, were highlighted in a story about the problems surrounding them. A year-long Newsday investigation revealed these homes to be in limbo because mortgage companies refused to maintain them. The story showed that Nassau and Suffolk counties had 4,044 zombie homes. As a result of the story, more than a dozen banks and mortgage companies took on the responsibility to maintain these homes even though they did not have to do so legally."

**Silver Winner: Heather Perlberg, John Gittelsohn, and Clea Benson, Bloomberg News**



[www.NAREE.org](http://www.NAREE.org)  
 1003 NW 6th Terrace  
 Boca Raton, Florida 33486  
 561.391.3599  
 FAX: 561.391.0099

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**OFFICERS**

**President**

*Steve Brown*  
*Dallas Morning News*

**Vice President**

*Michelle Jarboe*  
*The Plain Dealer*

**Second Vice President**

*Michael Walsh*  
*The Real Reporter*

**Treasurer**

*Dion Haynes*  
*Washington Post*

**Chairman of the Board**

*Shonda Novak*  
*Austin American-Statesman*

**ACTIVE DIRECTORS**

*Katherine Clarke*  
*The Real Deal*

*Beth DeCarbo*  
*Wall Street Journal*

*Jason Hidalgo*  
*Reno Gazette-Journal*

*Camilla McLaughlin*  
*Freelance Writer*

*Daniel Taub*  
*Bloomberg News*

*J. Scott Trubey*  
*Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

**ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS**

*Steve Cook*  
*Real Estate Economy Watch*

*Elizabeth Razzi*  
*Urban Land magazine*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

*Mary Doyle-Kimball*  
 NAREE

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "This report showed how HUD sold billions of bad loans that did little to help homeowners in high foreclosure communities, but in reality the loans helped HUD. The Freedom of Information Act was used by the reporters to gather and analyze the results on not only HUD but also firms such as Oaktree Capital Management and the Blackstone Group."

**Bronze Winner: Jason Hidalgo, Anjeanette Damon, Jeff Delong, and Trevon Milliard, Reno Gazette-Journal**

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "When your community is hit by a severe drought, everyone is expected to cut back on water usage. But the reporters, using the state's open records law, found residential and commercial users wasting this precious resource. The series led to changes in uses and rate policies."

**Honorable Mention Winner: Jon Prior, Politico**

Judge's Comment on Honorable Mention Winner: "The reporter found that banks were violating legal settlements with federal and state governments, evicting homeowners without offering them help. This article broke new ground by holding the government accountable for its weak oversight of flawed foreclosure practices."

**Category 23: Best Series**

**Gold Winner: Jeff Collins, Orange County Register**

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "This series examined housing problems in Orange County, California, that have no easy solutions. The problems include: would-be homeowners who cannot find a home to buy, or much less rent, in their price range; a limited water supply; and the reluctance of long-time residents to accept real estate changes. The five-part series was comprehensive with numerous interviews of those affected."

**Silver Winner: Mark Heschmeyer, CoStar News**

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "This series shed light on an underreported phenomenon: new federal regulations are closing many for-profit colleges, creating empty campuses and challenges and opportunities in leases. The reporter demonstrated the impact of what may become an epidemic from coast to coast."

**Bronze Winner: E.B. Solomont, The Real Deal**

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "Chinese investors are shelling out billions to scoop up New York City real estate, and the writer captured this growing trend expertly. Packed with excellent graphics showing the top investors and fun facts about them, the people-populated look demonstrated how American real estate brokers are courting the uber wealthy overseas."

**Honorable Mention Winner: Holden Lewis, Bankrate.com**



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### OFFICERS

#### President

*Steve Brown*  
*Dallas Morning News*

#### Vice President

*Michelle Jarboe*  
*The Plain Dealer*

#### Second Vice President

*Michael Walsh*  
*The Real Reporter*

#### Treasurer

*Dion Haynes*  
*Washington Post*

#### Chairman of the Board

*Shonda Novak*  
*Austin American-Statesman*

### ACTIVE DIRECTORS

*Katherine Clarke*  
*The Real Deal*

*Beth DeCarbo*  
*Wall Street Journal*

*Jason Hidalgo*  
*Reno Gazette-Journal*

*Camilla McLaughlin*  
Freelance Writer

*Daniel Taub*  
*Bloomberg News*

*J. Scott Trubey*  
*Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

### ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

*Steve Cook*  
*Real Estate Economy Watch*

*Elizabeth Razzi*  
*Urban Land magazine*

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*Mary Doyle-Kimball*  
NAREE

Judge's Comment on Honorable Mention Winner: "Campy videos and home loan documents normally do not go together. However, this reporter guided readers through the complicated process of loan estimate and disclosure forms. This was an easy to understand public service report on a topic that could be a dry and confusing process."

#### Category 24: Best Blog

**Gold Winner: Ken Harney**, Bert's Blog

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "This story performed a significant public service. After directing readers to Zillow's 'Zestimates' to find out the apparent value of their homes, the writer showed them how to find out if the estimate was correct. He predicted that many readers would be greatly surprised by the result."

**Silver Winner: Candace Evans**, CandysDirt.com/  
SecondShelters

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "How decadent, how dreamy—can this be real? The blogger got great access to the most expensive home in Dallas--\$100 million—and with the use of a trove of information and numerous lavish photographs on which readers could feast their eyes, this blog was lively and fun."

**Bronze Winner: Tim Bryant**, St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "This St. Louis blogger had fun with a contest to name a new make-believe subdivision. The winner was the Lucky Royal Graveyard at Turducken Falls. It generated buzz, which is what a blog should do."

#### Category 25: Best International Real Estate Story

**Gold Winner: Neil Callanan and Suzi Ring**, Bloomberg News

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "This was another striking example of how 'privacy laws' are often used to hide graft and corruption. Kudos to Bloomberg for a comprehensive look at how billionaires used secret luxury home purchases in London to hide their assets and ill-gotten gains. The reporters worked with the British Land Registry to create a new data base of overseas property owners. The story resulted in the British prime minister promising to crack down on the use of anonymous shell companies to buy properties."

**Silver Winner: Jon Anderson**, SecondShelters

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "This was a breezy look at buying a second or third home in Marrakech, Morocco, which is affordable and has something in real estate for everyone. Beyond a catchy headline ('Flock to the Casbah'), the story offered a highly interesting look at the nuts and bolts of finding a livable space in an exotic destination. It did a great job of dissecting the market."

**Bronze Winner: Katy McLaughlin**, The Wall Street Journal



[www.NAREE.org](http://www.NAREE.org)  
 1003 NW 6th Terrace  
 Boca Raton, Florida 33486  
 561.391.3599  
 FAX: 561.391.0099

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
 OFFICERS**

**President**

*Steve Brown  
 Dallas Morning News*

**Vice President**

*Michelle Jarboe  
 The Plain Dealer*

**Second Vice President**

*Michael Walsh  
 The Real Reporter*

**Treasurer**

*Dion Haynes  
 Washington Post*

**Chairman of the Board**

*Shonda Novak  
 Austin American-Statesman*

**ACTIVE DIRECTORS**

*Katherine Clarke  
 The Real Deal*

*Beth DeCarbo  
 Wall Street Journal*

*Jason Hidalgo  
 Reno Gazette-Journal*

*Camilla McLaughlin  
 Freelance Writer*

*Daniel Taub  
 Bloomberg News*

*J. Scott Trubey  
 Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

**ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS**

*Steve Cook  
 Real Estate Economy Watch*

*Elizabeth Razzi  
 Urban Land magazine*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

*Mary Doyle-Kimball  
 NAREE*

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "This was an inviting examination of how much more the dollar will buy in real estate in Europe versus the United States. Text and photographs made a compelling case for buying the luxury home of your dreams overseas. The story used good examples from Spain, France, and Italy."

**Honorable Mention Winner: Konrad Putzier, The Real Deal**

Judge's Comment on Honorable Mention Winner: "This was a cost-benefit analysis comparing upscale New York City properties to those in Hong Kong and London. What was notable about this story was the analysis of a wealth of variables, including taxes, politics, and the price per square foot for real estate."

**Category 26: Best Team Report**

**Gold Winners: John Gittelsohn and Prashant Gopal, Bloomberg News**

Judge's Comment on Gold Winners: "This report raised a problem that is becoming more and more common in big cities: the inability of some people to find a place to live because of the high cost of real estate. The story focused on San Francisco, where the problem is perhaps more dire than in any other big city in the country. It showed how some desperate people were willing to live anywhere, even if it was illegal, and take a chance that they would not be evicted or charged with a crime. The story screamed for solutions to be found."

**Silver Winners: Heather Perlberg, Prashant Gopal, and John Gittelsohn, Bloomberg News**

Judge's Comment on Silver Winners: "This story personalized a national trend in which historically crime-ridden neighborhoods are becoming more attractive to homeowners and businesses. While it was mostly about Washington, it referenced similar stories in New York and Los Angeles. It employed great detail as readers were treated to word pictures of cupcake shops and boutiques starting to replace liquor stores and payday loan vendors."

**Bronze Winners, J. Scott Trubey and Arielle Kass, Atlanta Journal-Constitution**

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winners: "The reporters dug into court documents and property records, as well as conducting a number of interviews, to build a story about a prominent Atlanta developer and his former empire and why he now was being sued by creditors. The writers used the multiple sources to explain why the problem was bigger than merely the person in court."

**Category 27: Best Design, Home or Shelter Magazine**

**Gold Winner: Lynn Medford, The Washington Post Magazine**

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "This Sunday magazine had an engaging mix of editorial content, from the high-end soiree at the French ambassador's home to practical tips about ordinary homeowners' patios. Inspiring before and after photographs were a real treat."



[www.NAREE.org](http://www.NAREE.org)  
 1003 NW 6th Terrace  
 Boca Raton, Florida 33486  
 561.391.3599  
 FAX: 561.391.0099

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
 OFFICERS**

**President**

*Steve Brown  
 Dallas Morning News*

**Vice President**

*Michelle Jarboe  
 The Plain Dealer*

**Second Vice President**

*Michael Walsh  
 The Real Reporter*

**Treasurer**

*Dion Haynes  
 Washington Post*

**Chairman of the Board**

*Shonda Novak  
 Austin American-Statesman*

**ACTIVE DIRECTORS**

*Katherine Clarke  
 The Real Deal*

*Beth DeCarbo  
 Wall Street Journal*

*Jason Hidalgo  
 Reno Gazette-Journal*

*Camilla McLaughlin  
 Freelance Writer*

*Daniel Taub  
 Bloomberg News*

*J. Scott Trubey  
 Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

**ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS**

*Steve Cook  
 Real Estate Economy Watch*

*Elizabeth Razzi  
 Urban Land magazine*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

*Mary Doyle-Kimball  
 NAREE*

**Silver Winner: Gail Ravgiala, Jenna Talbott, and Courtney Goodrich, Design New England/Boston Globe**

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "Year in and year out this magazine can be depended upon to make readers drool for yesterday in New England. The photography is sensuous and stunning, and the design is clean and uncomplicated."

**Bronze Winner: Mark Moffa, Richard A. Goodwin, Kathleen Carlin-Russell, Jonathan Bayley, Wendi Lauber, Kirsten Niper, Christine Aebischer, and Stacy Staum, Unique Homes**

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "For those who are interested in what the magazine calls 'unique' homes, this publication will sate their appetite. Outstanding photography supplements stories with a lot of information."

**Category 28: Best Residential Trade Magazine**

**Gold Winner: Stuart Elliott, Jill Noonan, and Elizabeth Kim, The Real Deal**

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "The judges were impressed by the high volume of editorial content. In a homage to New Yorker magazine, the cartoon cover took a chance and easily scored. This publication sets a high bar for its competitors."

**Silver Winner: Matt Power, Green Builder**

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "Intensely focused on the particular needs of its audience, there is something useful on every page. If you want cutting edge, you will find it here. It is both highly technical and attractive."

**Bronze Winner: Denise Dersin, Amy Albert, Mike Beirne, Ingrid Bush, and Robin Hicks, Professional Builder**

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "Professional Builder makes smart use of graphics, packing a lot of information in a tight space. It is a highly slick and professional offering that is highly useful for its audience. It took a much-covered trend, the tiny home craze, and brought fresh new perspectives to the subject."

**Category 29: Best Commercial Trade Magazine**

**Gold Winner: Michael Walsh, The Real Reporter**

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "The Real Reporter Annual Investment Report is a comprehensive review of the previous year in New England commercial real estate. The amount of information is stunning and is a must read for anyone in real estate in the greater Boston area."

**Silver Winner: Stuart Elliott, Jill Noonan, and Elizabeth Kim, The Real Deal**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### OFFICERS

#### President

*Steve Brown*  
*Dallas Morning News*

#### Vice President

*Michelle Jarboe*  
*The Plain Dealer*

#### Second Vice President

*Michael Walsh*  
*The Real Reporter*

#### Treasurer

*Dion Haynes*  
*Washington Post*

#### Chairman of the Board

*Shonda Novak*  
*Austin American-Statesman*

### ACTIVE DIRECTORS

*Katherine Clarke*  
*The Real Deal*

*Beth DeCarbo*  
*Wall Street Journal*

*Jason Hidalgo*  
*Reno Gazette-Journal*

*Camilla McLaughlin*  
Freelance Writer

*Daniel Taub*  
*Bloomberg News*

*J. Scott Trubey*  
*Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

### ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

*Steve Cook*  
*Real Estate Economy Watch*

*Elizabeth Razzi*  
*Urban Land magazine*

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*Mary Doyle-Kimball*  
NAREE

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "This magazine is lush and smart with a lot of coverage of people and properties that make New York City real estate stories come alive. Particularly fetching was the dramatic double-truck layout of power broker Tom Brady. The graphics are highly readable, particularly the subway ridership in the Bronx as recorded over time."

**Bronze Winner: Randall Shearin**, Student Housing Business Magazine

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "For stakeholders in the student housing market, this publication offers a good overview of the subject. It does a good job of seeing students' housing issues through their eyes. Features on international students and social media use and access were examples of the broad agenda."

### Category 30: Best Newsletter

**Gold Winner: Loretta Clodfelter**, Institutional Real Estate – The Americas

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "This newsletter about the Americas stands out because of its in-depth data analysis and lively infographics, beautiful photographs, and clean layouts. It is not afraid to tackle tough topics such as unconscious bias relating to women leaders in the commercial real estate industry. Whoever designs this deserves a raise."

**Silver Winner: Jennifer Molloy**, Institutional Real Estate – Asia Pacific

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "Covering the Asia Pacific area, this monthly publication provides readers with everything they should know about a dominant and important emerging market. The writers have mastered a layer of complexity that explains one culture to another."

**Bronze Winner: Daren Blomquist**, Housing News Report

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "This newsletter does not shy away from investigative journalism. One example was the story on real estate shell games in which Realtors took steps to cloak the identities of thousands of real estate buyers."

### Category 31: Best Newspaper Real Estate or Home Section

**Gold Winner: Emily Gitter and Beth DeCarbo**, The Wall Street Journal – Mansion

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "Tackling such tantalizing topics as what happens to the properties of rogue executives sent to prison for corporate crimes, this section is a mixture of sizzle and steak. It mixes substantial and well written stories with stunning, lavish photography. For real estate readers, this is the stuff dreams are made of."

**Silver Winner: Eileen McEleney Woods**, The Boston Globe



[www.NAREE.org](http://www.NAREE.org)

1003 NW 6th Terrace  
Boca Raton, Florida 33486  
561.391.3599  
FAX: 561.391.0099

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**OFFICERS**

**President**

*Steve Brown*  
*Dallas Morning News*

**Vice President**

*Michelle Jarboe*  
*The Plain Dealer*

**Second Vice President**

*Michael Walsh*  
*The Real Reporter*

**Treasurer**

*Dion Haynes*  
*Washington Post*

**Chairman of the Board**

*Shonda Novak*  
*Austin American-Statesman*

**ACTIVE DIRECTORS**

*Katherine Clarke*  
*The Real Deal*

*Beth DeCarbo*  
*Wall Street Journal*

*Jason Hidalgo*  
*Reno Gazette-Journal*

*Camilla McLaughlin*  
Freelance Writer

*Daniel Taub*  
*Bloomberg News*

*J. Scott Trubey*  
*Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

**ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS**

*Steve Cook*  
*Real Estate Economy Watch*

*Elizabeth Razzi*  
*Urban Land magazine*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

*Mary Doyle-Kimball*  
NAREE

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "This is an attractive, clean section packed with information and yet not overwhelming. The cover takes design chances by borrowing from modular web concepts to attract readers, and it succeeds."

**Bronze Winner: Kendra Nichols**, The Washington Post – Local Living

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "This is like a magazine in your Sunday newspaper. It has big photographs, high impact pictures, and a lot of hyperlocal news, organized by location, so that the reader can dive into what is happening in the district or down the block."

**Honorable Mention Winner: Brenda Richardson**, Chicago Tribune

Judge's Comment on Honorable Mention Winner: "Story subjects are unique, quirky, and fun. The mix of articles and attractive, color photography keep the reader turning the page, which is the goal of all newspapers."

**Category 32: Best Web Site**

**Gold Winner: Suzann Silverman, Diana Mosher, Jessica Fiur, Samantha Goldberg, Mallory Bulman, Paul Rosta, Michelle Matteson, Veronica Grecu, Alex Girda, Adriana Pop, Adelina Osan, Ioana Neamt, and Anca Gagiuc**, Multi-Housing News

Judge's Comment on Gold Winner: "The page has a logical and attractive presence. It is full of information and multimedia and breaking news, organized so that the fresh news automatically appears on the first screen. Users can study market data broken down by region and hone in on property types that are best suited for them. There is something for everyone."

**Silver Winner: Matt Power**, Green Builder

Judge's Comment on Silver Winner: "The judges were impressed by the amount of information on the home page that would draw users into stories on the inside. The clean design is easy on the eyes, and users can pick and choose with maximum interactivity. Current information does not overwhelm the site's ongoing editorial campaigns."

**Bronze Winner: Leigh Kamping-Carder**, The Wall Street Journal

Judge's Comment on Bronze Winner: "This site is informative, beautiful, and useful. The user-friendly property-search option on the home page is extremely practical for people looking to buy, rent, or dream."

**Honorable Mention Winner: Elena Misonzhnik, David Bodamer, and Kathy McGilvery**, National Real Estate Investor

Judge's Comment on Honorable Mention Winner: "The 'must reads' column directs readers to high impact trend stories. Reader input is clearly valued, thanks to the Viewpoints section, where users are encouraged to submit stories."