

# SPECIAL AWARDS

Special awards may or may not be given annually at the judges' discretion. • No points toward General Excellence.

Upload entry components at [www.newspapercontest.com/hspa](http://www.newspapercontest.com/hspa)

## 32. Charlie Biggs Commitment to Community Award

"The Charlie" honors a veteran Indiana newspaper person who embodies their community in every sense of the word.

It's named for the late Charlie Biggs, former publisher of The Hope Star-Journal who, not only loved his hometown, but wrote about it, talked about it and took part in its life.

The HSPA Newsroom Seminar Committee, of which Biggs was a long-time member and former chair, created this award to recognize others who serve as he did.

To make a nomination, upload a written statement explaining how your nominee meets the following criteria: writes or publishes stories about the community served; is involved in the life of the community; demonstrates making a difference in the community through journalistic efforts and serves/served a considerable length of time in the industry.

Previous winners of "The Charlie" are not eligible.

### Previous Charlie Award winners

2012 – **Patrick Lanman**, *Vevay Newspapers Inc.*

2013 – **Carolyn & Dick Konstanzer**, *Connersville News-Examiner*

2014 – **Jack Ronald**, *The Commercial Review (Portland)*

2017 – **Jack Pate**, *The Evansville Courier & Press*

## 33. James W. Brown Digital Drive Award

This award honors an initiative launched within the contest period by a daily or nondaily newspaper that drives an increase in digital and/or print audiences. The initiative can be a new product or new content/elements added to an existing product.

Brown, for whom the award is named, is executive associate dean emeritus at the former Indiana University School of Journalism, Indianapolis. As a pioneer, cheerleader and great asset to Indiana journalism who's been heavily involved in photography and multimedia, Brown pushed professional and student journalists toward innovation with video and audio.

To make a nomination, upload a one-page letter and supporting material (PDF of print material or URL/screenshots displaying digital content) to describe the initiative and background leading to its development. The letter should document the number of new readers or audiences attracted during the contest period and list individuals or departments responsible for the development.

### Previous Brown Award winners

2010 – **John Wooden: The Indiana Story**

*Staff, The Indianapolis Star*

2014 – **Flavor 574**

*Staff, The Elkhart Truth*

2016 – **Bicentennial**

*Staff, The Times (Munster)*

2017 – **The Drop**

*Staff, The Indianapolis Star*

## 34. Ray Moscowitz Award

Created in 1998 for longtime Indiana journalist Raymond Moscowitz, this award honors those who foster the advancement of the First Amendment, recognizing journalistic achievement by a newspaper person or persons who succeeded in improving government transparency.

Moscowitz, who passed away in June 2016, served as editor and publisher of several newspapers during his career. He spent 29 years with Nixon Newspapers Inc., the last 10 as editorial director overseeing the company's 12 newspapers. In 2001, he was named Print Journalist of the Year by Western Kentucky University and then, in 2002, he was inducted into the Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame.

To submit a nomination, upload a letter and supporting material (stories, editorials, letters to the editor, etc.) to show how the nominee opened records of public agencies or meetings of state or local government bodies or lifted a veil of secrecy.

### Previous Moscowitz Award winners

2013 – **The China Letter**

*Alex Campbell & John Russell, The Indianapolis Star*

2014 – **City of Marion financial recordkeeping**

*Karla Bowsher, Chronicle-Tribune (Marion)*

2015 – **South Bend schools transparency**

*Kim Kilbride, South Bend Tribune*

## 35. Frank O'Bannon Sunshine Award

This award is presented to an individual, group or organization that has demonstrated outstanding efforts to protect and enhance the concepts of open government in Indiana. While not limited to public officials, HSPA hopes to recognize worthy elected officials or public employees through this award. HSPA also wants to recognize citizens who actively push for government transparency.

This award is named after the late Indiana governor who was an advocate of the people's right to know throughout his political career.

### Nominees may be:

- Citizens who worked to ensure the Open Door Law or Access to Public Records Act are followed in their community.
- Local or state officials who remained true to the philosophy of openness despite pressure to act in secret.

### Nomination guidelines:

- An individual or an entire neighborhood organization, city or town council, or state agency may be nominated.
- The actions warranting recognition may have occurred in the past year, or the nomination may recognize years of work that exemplify open government and public participation in the process.

Upload a letter of recommendation and any supporting documents.