2006 Still Picture Contest

John Kuntz from The Plain Dealer has been chosen Photographer of the Year for 2006 by the Ohio News Photographers Association. Finishing second was Chris Russell from The Columbus Dispatch and third was freelance photographer Greg Ruffing. Dale Omori from The Plain Dealer received an Award of Excellence for his work over the past year. Ninety seven photographers from across the state submitted 1503 entries in the 57th annual news photography contest judged Friday and Saturday at Kent State University.

Judging the competition were: Denny Simmons, staff photographer at the Evansville (IN) Courier & Press, Lara Solt, staff photographer at the Dallas Morning News and Gerry Melendez, staff photographer at The State in Columbia, SC.

News Photographer of Year
1st - John Kuntz, The Plain Dealer
2nd - Chris Russell, The Columbus Dispatch
3rd - Greg Ruffing, Freelance
AE - Dale Omori, The Plain Dealer

Student Photographer of the Year
1st - David Foster, Kent State University
2nd - Michael P. King, Ohio University

James R. Gordon Ohio Understanding Award

Best of Show
Joshua Gunter, The Plain Dealer, “Save the Last Dance”

Picture Usage (Under 100,000 circulation)
1st - The News Herald
2nd - The (Medina) Gazette

Picture Usage (Over 100,000 circulation)
1st - The Plain Dealer
2nd - The Columbus Dispatch
3rd - Akron Beacon Journal

Photography Staff of Year (Under 100,000 circulation)
1st - Springfield News-Sun
2nd - The News Herald
3rd - The Repository

Photography Staff of Year (Over 100,000 circulation)
1st - The Plain Dealer
2nd - The Columbus Dispatch
3rd - Akron Beacon Journal

Assigned Feature Picture
1st - Joshua Gunter, The Plain Dealer, “Save the Last Dance”
3rd - Michael P. King, Ohio University, “Friends”
AE - Chris Stephens, The Plain Dealer, “Dance to the Music”
AE - Greg Ruffing, Freelance, “Miss Rodeo Texas”
AE - Joshua Gunter, The Plain Dealer, “Box Lunch”

Enterprise Feature Picture
2nd - Lynn Ischay, The Plain Dealer, “Last Day”
AE - Scott Shaw, The Plain Dealer, “Candy”
AE - Greg Ruffing, Freelance, “End of Semester”
AE - Joshua Gunter, The Plain Dealer, “Browns Wedding”
AE - Ken Love, Akron Beacon Journal, “Patriot’s Healing Field”

Feature Picture Story
1st - John Kuntz, The Plain Dealer, “Dakota Bihn”
2nd - Chris Russell, The Columbus Dispatch, “Cancer Warriors”
3rd - Chris Russell, The Columbus Dispatch, “Children of War”
AE - Greg Ruffing, Freelance, “Miss Texas Rodeo”

General News
1st - Eric Albrecht, The Columbus Dispatch, “Welcome Home”
2nd - Chuck Crow, The Plain Dealer, “M.I.A. Farewell”
3rd - Tom Dodge, The Columbus Dispatch, “28 Years To Life”
AE - Chris Stephens, The Plain Dealer, “Mother’s Plea”
AE - Ron Alvey, Dayton Daily News, “Time is Precious”
AE - Thomas Ondrey, The Plain Dealer, “Convicted Killer Offers Apology”

Issue Illustration
1st - Michael Weiss, The Repository, “Memory of Rape”
AE - Andrea Levy, The Plain Dealer, “Nasty Habit”
AE - Andrea Levy, The Plain Dealer, “Searching For a Mother’s Love”

Product Illustration
1st - Chris Stephens, The Plain Dealer, “Walleye”
2nd - Jim Witmer, Dayton Daily News, “Pub Glasses”
3rd - Scott Shaw, The Plain Dealer, “Traveling By Air”

News Picture Story
1st - Andy Morrison, The Blade, “Our Father”
3rd - Thomas Ondrey, The Plain Dealer, “Flood Aftermath”
2006 Still Picture Contest

**Pictorial**

1st - John Kuntz, The Plain Dealer, “Alone”
3rd - Phil Masturzo, Akron Beacon Journal, “Barn”
AE - Greg Ruffing, Freelance, “Miss Rodeo Texas”
AE - Glenn Hartong, The Cincinnati Enquirer, “Curves”
AE - Joshua Gunter, The Plain Dealer, “Rolling Thunder”
AE - Rami Daud, Kent State University, “Trucks”

**Portrait/Personality**

1st - Rami Daud, Kent State University, “Jeff Deluca”
2nd - Greg Ruffing, Freelance, “Polka”
3rd - Tom Dodge, The Columbus Dispatch, “Colo”
AE - David Foster, Kent State University, “Walter Carkauff”
AE - Dale Omori, The Plain Dealer, “King”
AE - Eric Albrecht, The Columbus Dispatch, “Sheep Wrangler”
AE - Lynn Ischay, The Plain Dealer, “Dontez”
AE - Phil Masturzo, Akron Beacon Journal, “World War I Veteran”

**Sports Action**

1st - Amy E. Voigt, The Blade, “Biting”
3rd - Neal C. Lauron, The Columbus Dispatch, “Big Hit”
AE - Aaron Rudolph, The (Lisbon) Morning Journal, “Hurdling”
AE - Chuck Crow, The Plain Dealer, “The Eyes Have It”
AE - Lindsay Semple, Akron Beacon Journal, “Dent”
AE - Mark Duncan, Associated Press, “Dive”

**Sports Feature**

2nd - Tony Dejak, Associated Press, “Happy Fan”
3rd - Jeff Hinckley, Columbus Dispatch, “Early Training”
AE - Greg Ruffing, Freelance, “Figure Competition”
AE - Joy Parker, ThisWeek Newspaper, “Muddy Victory Celebration”
AE - Jeff Haller, Ohio University, “Camp Out”
AE - Rami Daud, Kent State University, “Victory”
AE - Thomas Ondrey, The Plain Dealer, “Floating Cheerleader”
AE - Andrew Dolph, The (Medina) Gazette, “Foul Call”
AE - Phil Masturzo, Akron Beacon Journal, “Track”

**Sports Picture Story**

1st - Jeff Swinger, Cincinnati Enquirer, “A Fighting Spirit”
2nd - Joshua Gunter, The Plain Dealer, “Torino”

**Spot News (Under 100,000 circulation)**

1st - Michael Blair, The News Herald, “Flood Victims”
2nd - Marshall Gorby, Springfield News-Sun, “Gas Leak”
AE - Duncan Scott, The News Herald, “Fatal Crash”
AE - Michael Balash, The Repository, “PCS Metals Fire”

**Spot News (Over 100,000 circulation)**

1st - Joshua Gunter, The Plain Dealer, “Reunion With Mom”
2nd - Glenn Hartong, Cincinnati Enquirer, “Holding On”
3rd - James D. DeCamp, The Columbus Dispatch, “Homicide”
AE - Chuck Crow, The Plain Dealer, “Daughter’s Grief”
AE - David I. Andersen, The Plain Dealer, “Rainbow”
AE - David I. Andersen, The Plain Dealer, “Rescued”
AE - Patrick Reddy, Cincinnati Enquirer, “Bad Day”
AE - Phil Masturzo, Akron Beacon Journal, “Fatal Fire”

**Team Picture Story**

1st - The Plain Dealer, “Summer of Floods”
2nd - The Plain Dealer, “Saying Goodbye”