

# DART AWARD

for Excellence in Coverage of Trauma

The Dart Awards for Excellence in Coverage of Trauma recognize exemplary journalism on the impact of violence, crime, disaster and other traumatic events on individuals, families or communities. Entries should focus on the experience of victims and survivors, and contribute to public understanding of trauma-related issues.

The Dart Awards recognize newspaper and radio journalism that goes beyond the ordinary in reporting on trauma. The newspaper category, which includes online coverage from newspapers and established news websites, has two sub-categories: spot news, and in-depth reporting. The radio category includes both single stories and cohesive series.

The Dart Awards are team prizes, reflecting all the elements shaping an entry and contributing to its strength. Entries will be judged as a total package.

Dart Award winners, honorable mentions and finalists will be announced in late April 2009. Travel and hotel expenses for winners to attend an award's ceremony in New York City will be covered by the Dart Center.

For more information, reach us at:

[www.dartaward.org](http://www.dartaward.org) | (206) 616 . 3223



## newspaper & online journalism

### ELIGIBILITY

The Dart Awards competition is open to all North American and U.S. territories newspapers and established news websites. **Spot news** entries should be a single story, or a package of coverage on a single event. **In-depth** entries may be a single feature story or cohesive series (not a body of work). All entries must have been published from January 1 2008 – December 31, 2008. There is a maximum of one (1) entry per newspaper or news website. Any significant challenge to honesty, accuracy or fairness of an entry, such as published letters, corrections, retractions as well as responses by the newspaper, should be included with the entry.

### PRIZE

A \$5,000 prize will be given to the winning reporting team in each sub-category for division among those who contributed to the winning entry. Division shall be according to each member's contribution to the winning entry as determined by the executive editor.

### TEAM MEMBERS

Team members entitled to share in the prize include reporters, photographers, copy editors, graphic artists and editors who acted as team leaders and any other staff members who assisted in the creation of the entry and are listed on the application form.

### JUDGING

A single panel of judges evaluates newspaper and radio entries. The judging panel is comprised of distinguished journalists, a victim advocate or similar representative, and a trauma clinician.

Judges reserve the right to declare no winner in either sub-category, or to move entries between categories as appropriate. Entries should:

- Portray victims and survivors of trauma with sensitivity and insight;
- Inform readers about the ways individuals react to and cope with emotional trauma;
- Avoid sensationalism, melodrama, and portrayal of victims as tragic or pathetic.

### SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Proper submission of the entry is essential. If entries do not include all required materials, they will be disqualified. All entries must include:

- A completed Application & Release Form (one original and six copies);
- A one or two-page cover letter that responds to the following (one original and six copies):
  - How you first encountered the topic and went about pursuing it
  - Particular reporting challenges or other special circumstances
  - Notable reader/listener response, or impact from the work
  - Whether you have run a correction or clarification, or anyone has challenged the story's accuracy, please explain (and include documentation of the situation)
- Seven full-page tear sheets, or full-size, full-page copies of the story or series; all pages collated into seven distinct groupings (no staples). If folded, fold as delivered to readers. No covers, binders, plastic pages, or other presentation materials (Tear sheets are preferred, but copies may be submitted, provided they are full-size, entire pages)
- A compact disc with a PDF of the story or series, and a Microsoft Word document of the cover letter
- For online coverage, a live url and/or CD with all parts of the online package.

### DEADLINE

Entries must be received no later than **Wednesday, January 28, 2009** at 5PM E.S.T. Late entries will not be accepted. Send entries to:

Dart Awards – Attention: Laura Reizman  
Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism  
2950 Broadway, Room 701B  
New York, NY 10027

For more information, contact Kate Black, Dart Award Coordinator, at [kate.black@dartcenter.org](mailto:kate.black@dartcenter.org)

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## 2009 Application & Release Form

all fields are required

### SUBMISSION CHECK LIST

- [ ] This completed Application & Release Form.
- [ ] A one to two-page letter that responds to questions posed in the guidelines.
- [ ] Seven full-page tear sheets (or full-size, full-page copies) of the story or series.
- [ ] One compact disc with a PDF of the story or series and a Microsoft Word document of the cover letter.
- [ ] All materials sent in time to reach the Dart Award office no later than **Wednesday, Jan 28, 2009.**

Columbia University  
Graduate School of  
Journalism  
2950 Broadway, rm 701B  
New York, NY 10027

### SURVEY

How did you hear about the Dart Award?

- [ ] Search engine
- [ ] E-mail  
(newsletter)
- [ ] E-mail  
(press release)
- [ ] Ad/Listing  
(newspaper)
- [ ] Ad/Listing  
(magazine)
- [ ] Press release
- [ ] Other:  
\_\_\_\_\_

HEADLINE / TITLE

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ENTRY CATEGORY

Spot News

In-Depth Reporting

Online

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NEWSPAPER OR  
NEWS WEBSITE\*

\*Provide live URL or CD of online package

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MAILING ADDRESS

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EXECUTIVE EDITOR

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PHONE

---

E-MAIL

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TEAM MEMBERS\*

\*Minimum of two (2)

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Should the story or series named above and submitted with this application be named the winner of the Dart Award, receive an honorable mention, or be named a finalist, I hereby assign and transfer to the Dart Center the right to reprint the story or series, or any part of it (including photographs), in any form or media, for educational or non-commercial promotion of the Dart Center. I also assign and transfer to the Dart Center the right to electronically post the story or series, or any part of it, (including photographs) on the Dart Center and Dart Award web sites. I also grant permission to electronically link the story or series to the Dart Center web site, for the purposes described above.

I warrant that I am the executive editor of the newspaper that published the story or series described above, and that the newspaper is the sole owner of the rights of the work.

I also accept responsibility for dividing the prize money among the team members listed on the application form, in proportion to their contributions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
TITLE

For more information:

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

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