2022 Azbee Awards of Excellence
Heartland Regional Award Winners
(Alphabetical by publication name)

**Automotive News (Crain Communications, Inc.)**
*Category:* All Content - Enterprise News Story  
*Award Level:* Regional Gold Award  
*Title of Entry:* The disconnect in our grid  
Larry P. Vellequette, Reporter

*Category:* Print - Feature Series  
*Award Level:* Regional Gold Award  
*Title of Entry:* Elements of electrification  
Pete Bigelow, Reporter; Laurence Iliff, Reporter; John Irwin, Reporter; Urvaksh Karkaria, Reporter; Hannah Lutz, Reporter; Michael Martinez, Reporter; Richard Truett, Reporter

*Category:* Print - Single Topic Coverage by a Team  
*Award Level:* Regional Silver Award  
*Title of Entry:* Microchip shortage  
Nick Bunkley, News Editor; Lindsay Chappell, News Editor; Laurence Iliff, Reporter; Urvaksh Karkaria, Reporter; Hannah Lutz, Reporter; Michael Martinez, Reporter; Larry P. Vellequette, Reporter

*Category:* Print - Special Section  
*Award Level:* Regional Gold Award  
*Title of Entry:* EV1: A legacy in a new light  
Leslie Allen, News Editor; Pete Bigelow, Reporter; Lindsay Chappell, News Editor; Hannah Lutz, Reporter; Alexa St. John, Reporter; Richard Truett, Reporter

**Cannabis Business Times (GIE Media, Inc.)**
*Category:* All Content - Enterprise News Story  
*Award Level:* Regional Bronze Award  
*Title of Entry:* The Border-Town Effect: Dispensaries Boom on State Line  
Tony Lange, Associate Editor

*Category:* All Content - Impact/Investigative  
*Award Level:* Regional Silver Award  
*Title of Entry:* Bottlenecked  
Patrick Williams, Managing Editor

*Category:* Design - Front Cover-Photo  
*Award Level:* Regional Bronze Award  
*Title of Entry:* Mom Made Them Do It  
Katelyn Boyden Mullen, Art Director; Vanessa Stump, Photographer

*Category:* Online - Web Feature Series  
*Award Level:* Regional Bronze Award  
*Title of Entry:* The Starting Line  
Melissa Schiller, Senior Digital Editor
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Club + Resort Business (WTWH Media, LLC)
Category: Design - Opening Page/Spread-Illustration
Award Level: Regional Bronze Award
Title of Entry: Weather the Storm
Erin Canetta, Creative Director

Category: All Content - Case History
Award Level: Regional Silver Award
Title of Entry: How Apprenticeships Bridge the Skills Gap
Joanna DeChellis, Editor

Category: Design - Front Cover-Special Issue or Supplement
Award Level: Regional Silver Award
Title of Entry: Club + Resort Chef 2021 Cookbook
Erin Canetta, Creative Director Joanna DeChellis, Editor

Compact Equipment (Benjamin Media Inc.)
Category: Print - How-To Article
Award Level: Regional Gold Award
Title of Entry: The Ultimate Mini Ex Overview
Keith Gribbins, Publisher

CStore Decisions (WTWH Media, LLC)
Category: Online - Podcast
Award Level: Regional Bronze Award
Title of Entry: Conversations With Women in Convenience Featuring Kelsey Capellino
Erin Del Conte, Executive Editor

Category: Print - State of the Industry
Award Level: Regional Gold Award
Title of Entry: The 2021 Category Management Handbook
Erin Del Conte, Executive Editor; Erin Canetta, Creative Director; Thomas Mulloy, Senior Editor; Isabelle Gustafson, Associate Editor.

Design World (WTWH Media, LLC)
Category: All Content - Editorial
Award Level: Regional Bronze Award
Title of Entry: Insights
Paul J. Heney, VP, Editorial Director

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**Design World (WTWH Media, LLC)**
*Category:* Design - Opening Page/Spread-Photo  
*Award Level:* Regional Silver Award  
*Title of Entry:* Robot arm opens new doors for Spot  
Mark Rook, Vice President Creative Services

*Category:* Design - Opening Page/Spread-Photo  
*Award Level:* Regional Gold Award  
*Title of Entry:* Evolution of Boston Dynamics' box-moving robots  
Mark Rook, Vice President Creative Services

**Garden Center (GIE Media, Inc.)**
*Category:* All Content - Case History  
*Award Level:* Regional Gold Award  
*Title of Entry:* Changing the conversation  
Kate Spirgen, Editor

*Category:* All Content - Company Profile  
*Award Level:* Regional Silver Award  
*Title of Entry:* Eyes on the horizon  
Kate Spirgen, Editor

*Category:* Design - Infographics  
*Award Level:* Regional Gold Award  
*Title of Entry:* Last Look  
Stephanie Antal, Art Director

*Category:* Design - Opening Page/Spread - Photo Illustration  
*Award Level:* Regional Gold Award  
*Title of Entry:* 2021 State of the Industry: Pivot to Profit  
Stephanie Antal, Art Director

*Category:* Print - Single Topic Coverage by a Team  
*Award Level:* Regional Gold Award  
*Title of Entry:* 2021 Houseplant Report  
Kate Spirgen, Editor; Julianne Mobilian, Associate Editor; Sierra Allen, Assistant Editor

*Category:* Print - State of the Industry  
*Award Level:* Regional Silver Award  
*Title of Entry:* Garden Center’s 2021 State of the Industry Report  
Kate Spirgen, Editor; Julianne Mobilian, Associate Editor; Jolene Hansen, Contributing Writer

**Golfdom (North Coast Media, LLC)**
*Category:* All Content - Editor's Letter  
*Award Level:* Regional Bronze Award  
*Title of Entry:* Keeping up with Jones  
Seth Jones, Editor-in-Chief

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**Golfdom (North Coast Media, LLC)**
*Category:* Design - Front Cover-Photo  
*Award Level:* Regional Gold Award  
*Title of Entry:* Behind the Beauty  
Pete Seltzer, Art Director

**Hemp Grower (GIE Media, Inc.)**
*Category:* All Content - Enterprise News Story  
*Award Level:* Regional Silver Award  
*Title of Entry:* Overcoming Hemp Oversupply  
Jodi Helmer, Author; Jim Gilbride, Publisher; Noelle Skodzinski, Editorial Director; Theresa Bennett, Editor; Patrick Williams, Managing Editor

*Category:* All Content - Impact/Investigative  
*Award Level:* Regional Bronze Award  
*Title of Entry:* Hemp's Cannabinoid Quandary  
Jolene Hansen, Author; Jim Gilbride, Publisher; Noelle Skodzinski, Editorial Director; Theresa Bennett, Editor; Patrick Williams, Managing Editor

*Category:* Online - Online Single Topic Coverage by a Team  
*Award Level:* Regional Silver Award  
*Title of Entry:* The Rise of Delta-8 THC  
Theresa Bennett, Editor; Patrick Williams, Managing Editor; Andriana Ruscitto, Assistant Editor

*Category:* Print - Feature Article, 12 or More Issues per Year  
*Award Level:* Regional Gold Award  
*Title of Entry:* Hemp Grain: A Powerhouse With Potential  
Jolene Hansen, Author; Jim Gilbride, Publisher; Noelle Skodzinski, Editorial Director; Theresa Bennett, Editor; Patrick Williams, Managing Editor; Andriana Ruscitto, Associate Editor

**Hotel News Now (CoStar Group)**
*Category:* Online - Web Feature Article  
*Award Level:* Regional Silver Award  
*Title of Entry:* From Supply Shortages to Employee Burnout, Hotel Operators Cope with Ongoing Challenges  
Dana Miller, Senior Reporter

*Category:* Online - Web Feature Article  
*Award Level:* Regional Silver Award  
*Title of Entry:* The Lost Year: How COVID-19 Has Altered the Hotel Industry  
Sean McCracken, News Editor

*Category:* Online - Web Feature Series  
*Award Level:* Regional Silver Award  
*Title of Entry:* The Impact of COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates on Hotels  
Hotel News Now Editorial Staff
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**Landscape Management (North Coast Media, LLC)**
- **Category:** Print - Feature Article, 12 or More Issues per Year
- **Award Level:** Regional Bronze Award
- **Title of Entry:** Women in Landscaping
  Sarah Webb, Managing Editor, Landscape Management

**LP Gas (North Coast Media, LLC)**
- **Category:** Design - Front Cover-Illustration
- **Award Level:** Regional Silver Award
- **Title of Entry:** In the Game
  Kim Traum, Art Director

**Medical Design & Outsourcing (WTWH Media, LLC)**
- **Category:** All Content - Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- **Award Level:** Regional Bronze Award
- **Title of Entry:** Women in Medtech
  Danielle Kirsh, Senior Editor

  - **Category:** Design - Magazine/Newspaper Design
  - **Award Level:** Regional Silver Award
  - **Title of Entry:** Medical Design & Outsourcing – Magazine Design
    Matthew Claney, Art Director

**Pest Management Professional (North Coast Media, LLC)**
- **Category:** Design - Front Cover-Illustration
- **Award Level:** Regional Gold Award
- **Title of Entry:** Bed Bug Horror Stories
  Marty Whitford, Pete Seltzer, Tracie Martinez and Mike Right

  - **Category:** Design - Front Cover-Special Issue or Supplement
  - **Award Level:** Regional Gold Award
  - **Title of Entry:** State of the Industry Report
    Marty Whitford, Pete Seltzer, Tracie Martinez and Mike Right

  - **Category:** Print - Feature Article, 12 or More Issues per Year
  - **Award Level:** Regional Silver Award
  - **Title of Entry:** Dog Fight
    Heather Gooch, Editor-in-Chief; Diane Sofranec, Senior Editor; Tracie Martinez, Art Director

  - **Category:** Print - Single Topic Coverage by a Team
  - **Award Level:** Regional Bronze Award
  - **Title of Entry:** 2021 Game Planning
    Heather Gooch, Editor-in-Chief; Diane Sofranec, Senior Editor; Tracie Martinez, Art Director

  - **Category:** Print - Special Supplement
  - **Award Level:** Regional Bronze Award
  - **Title of Entry:** Intel on Invasives
    Diane Sofranec, Senior Editor; Tracie Martinez, Art Director; Courtney Townsend, Graphic Designer
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**PracticeLink Magazine (PracticeLink)**
- **Category:** Print - How-To Article
- **Award Level:** Regional Silver Award
- **Title of Entry:** The Timeline of a Physician Job Search
  Ken Allman, Founder & CEO; Laura Hammond, Editor; Jack Brannen, Art Director
  
  - **Category:** Print - How-To Article
  - **Award Level:** Regional Bronze Award
  - **Title of Entry:** The ABCs of CVs
    Ken Allman, Founder & CEO; Laura Hammond, Editor; Jack Brannen, Art Director

**R&D World (WTWH Media, LLC)**
- **Category:** Design - Opening Page/Spread-Illustration
- **Award Level:** Regional Silver Award
- **Title of Entry:** Facing Sustainability
  Mariel Evans, Graphic Designer
  
  - **Category:** Online - Podcast
  - **Award Level:** Regional Gold Award
  - **Title of Entry:** R&D 100 – The Podcast
    Paul J. Heney, VP, Editorial Director; Aimee Kalnoskas, Senior Editor; Brad Voyten, Video Manager

**Recycling Today (GIE Media, Inc.)**
- **Category:** All Content - Impact/Investigative
- **Award Level:** Regional Gold Award
- **Title of Entry:** The new normal?
  Megan Smalley, Managing Editor, Recycling Today; DeAnne Toto, Editor, Recycling Today

**Seaside Retailer (Breakwall Publishing)**
- **Category:** All Content - Editor's Letter
- **Award Level:** Regional Silver Award
- **Title of Entry:** Seaside Retailer Editor's Letters
  Kristin Ely, Executive Editor, Seaside Retailer
  
  - **Category:** Design - Feature Article Design, 11 or Fewer Issues per Year
  - **Award Level:** Regional Silver Award
  - **Title of Entry:** Going Further for the Planet
    Karen Carr, Publisher and Creative Director

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Seaside Retailer (Breakwall Publishing)
Category: Design - Magazine/Newspaper Design
Award Level: Regional Bronze Award
Title of Entry: Seaside Retailer magazine
Karen Carr, Publisher and Creative Director

Security (BNP Media Inc.)
Category: All Content - Regular Column, Contributed
Award Level: Regional Silver Award
Title of Entry: Leadership & Management
Michael Gips, Contributing Columnist

Solar Power World (WTWH Media, LLC)
Category: Online - Web Feature Article
Award Level: Regional Bronze Award
Title of Entry: When the utilities left him stranded, a homeowner went off-grid with solar + storage
Billy Ludt, Associate Editor

The Hardware Connection (The Hardware Connection)
Category: Online - Web Feature Article
Award Level: Regional Bronze Award
Title of Entry: Special Report: Supply Chain Crisis
Chris Jensen, Editor/Principal

Today’s Medical Developments (GIE Media, Inc.)
Category: Design - Infographics
Award Level: Regional Silver Award
Title of Entry: Infographics
Stephanie Antal, Art Director

Trenchless Technology (Benjamin Media Inc.)
Category: Online - Podcast
Award Level: Regional Silver Award
Title of Entry: Trenchless Technology Podcast: Women in Engineering
Sharon M. Bueno, Managing Editor

Windpower Engineering & Development (WTWH Media, LLC)
Category: Design - Opening Page/Spread-Photo
Award Level: Regional Bronze Award
Title of Entry: Fire Transparency for Safer Operations
Allison Washko, Senior Graphic Designer