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Title:	Finalists in the 10th Mondi Shanduka Newspaper Awards reflect raised standard in South African journalism		
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Article:

This year not only sees the Mondi Shanduka Newspaper Awards celebrate its 10th anniversary; it has also posted a new record with an impressive 760 entries.

The shortlisted entries for the annual newspaper journalism competition have been announced by the Newspaper Association of South Africa and Mondi Shanduka Newsprint following an intense judging session convened by Professor Guy Berger of Rhodes University.

This year's contest shows that increasing numbers of South African journalists are taking serious pride in their work, with a record 760 entries compared to last year's total of 601 submissions. The entries represent 37 newspapers from across all nine provinces and include the community press.

News Photography was the most popular category with a total of 125 entries, while the Feature Photography and Feature Writing categories each attracted 105.

Berger said: "It was a happy group of assessors at the end of our two-day judging process. We had worked through a very large sample of South African newspaper journalism, and were able to conclude that the best entries were of superb standard. Over the decade of this competition, it's clear that the best of the country's journalism just keeps getting better."

Click here to see the finalists are:

The judging panel included Pippa Green, Jodi Bieber, Joe Latakgomo, Tyrone August, David Wightman, Juby Mayet, Liesl Louw, Mathatha Tsedu, Tumi Makgabo, Paula Fray, Peter Sullivan, Mike Siluma, Adrienne Sichel and Arrie Rossouw

Turbine Hall will be the venue for this year's awards ceremony on 10 May in Johannesburg. Winners will receive a Mondi Shanduka Premier Award and a R15 000 cash prize.

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