

# AWARD CATEGORIES

## 1. Most Outstanding Student Newspaper (Print)

Entries should demonstrate strong reporting, engaging writing, and compelling photography, as well as effective layout and design that reflect the unique strengths of print media. Judges will look for a well-balanced and interesting mix of news, features and editorials. Please submit PDF files of three print issues.

## 2. Most Outstanding Student Newspaper (Online)

Entries should demonstrate excellence in reporting, writing, and digital presentation, including effective use of photography, multimedia, and web design. Judges will look for a well-balanced and engaging mix of news, features and editorials, as well as innovative use of the online format. Please submit a link to your newspaper's website.

## 3. Most Outstanding Reporter

This will be awarded to the student who has demonstrated excellence in hard news and feature writing, applying the conventions of professional journalism (well-written and focused leads, the use of quotes and attribution, etc.) to their pieces. Please submit three examples.

## 4. Best News Article

This award is given to a well-crafted hard news story that deals with a relevant issue at school or in the community.

## 5. Best Feature Article

This award is given to a human interest story that is clearly written, interesting, entertaining and relevant.

## 6. Best Opinion Piece (Column or Editorial)

This award is given to a personal column, editorial or opinion piece that is thought-provoking, reflects either the statement of the staff or writer's voice, and expresses an issue that affects the high school community.

## 7. Best Sports Story or Column

This will be awarded to a well-crafted hard news or feature sports story or a column linked to high school sports.

## 8. Best Visual (Photograph or Artwork)

This award will be judged on the clarity and quality of a photograph or illustration/cartoon, as well as its news impact and human interest.

## 9. Best Arts Review

This award is given to a critique or review of a movie, play, music, concert, book, performance, exhibit or other creative work that was open to the student community.

## 10. Best Layout

This award will be given to the best overall newspaper layout and design.

## 11. Best Use of Social Media

This category includes newspaper website stories that feature embedded social media posts or stand-alone social media posts/accounts used for sharing news. Demonstrate how effectively you use social media to engage and inform your audience. Please submit a link to your work.

## 12. Best News Video

This award will be given to the best journalistic video about school-related news. Submit a news video that has been published on a newspaper website or broadcasted at your school. Upload the video to YouTube and provide the link with your entry. Ensure the video is set to public view.