

NSPA 2024-25 INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

NSPA STORE:
[studentpress.org/
nspa/store/](https://studentpress.org/nspa/store/)

Participation in the NSPA Individual Awards is \$99 in addition to NSPA membership. The 2024-25 Individual Awards Entry fee is available for purchase through the Store on the NSPA website for members who did not make the purchase when renewing their 2024-25 membership. The BetterBNC portal does not provide access until payment is received.

Payment is due no later than **Tuesday, May 27**, and access will be provided to the BetterBNC portal no later than May 29. The deadline for submitting entries is **Monday, June 2, 5 p.m. CT.**

> **TECH SUPPORT:** Assistance with the BetterBNC award platform is available at 360.427.6300, from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Pacific or by emailing cody@smalltownpapers.com.

> **QUESTIONS:** Inquires about the NSPA Individual Awards should be directed to Gary Lundgren, NSPA associate director, at gary@studentpress.org.

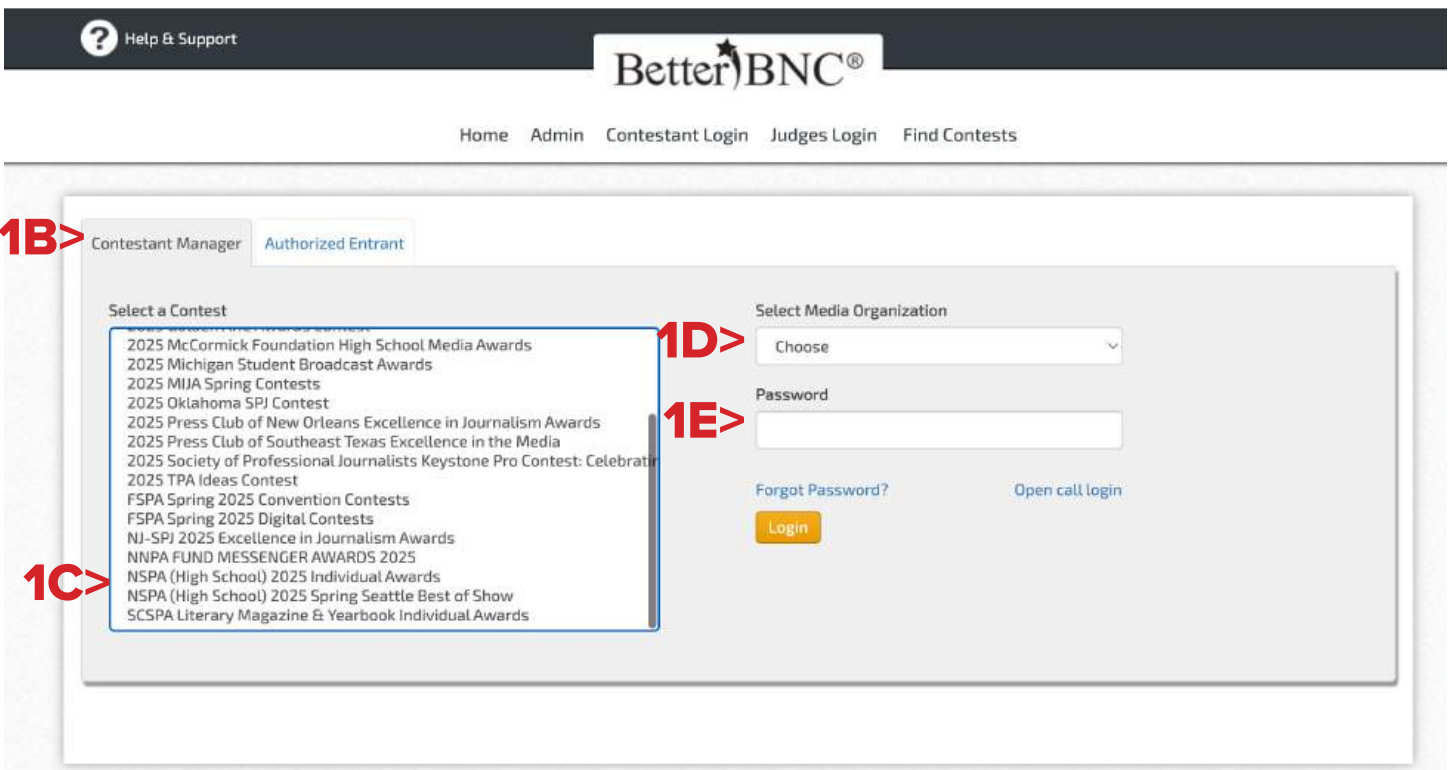
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1. LOG INTO YOUR ACCOUNT



1A> Go to www.betterbnc.com and click on **Contestant Login** at the top.



1B> Make sure you are on the **Contestant Manager** tab.

1C> On the left, under **Select a Contest**, locate **NSPA (High School) 2025 Individual** awards from the list.

1D> On the right, under **Select Media Organization**, choose your NSPA-member media outlet. They are listed by high school with media type indicated:

(B) Broadcast
(LM-SM) Literary Arts/
Specialty Magazine
(N) Newspaper/
Newsmagazine
(O) Online
(Y) Yearbook

If your school name does not appear under Select Media Organization, the \$99 fee has not been paid. That purchase can be made no later than Tuesday, May 27, from the NSPA Store by credit card only:

www.studentpress.org/nspa/store

Purchase **2024-25 NSPA Individual Awards**.

1E> On the right, under **Password**, enter —

NSPA

2. PROVIDE ACCOUNT INFORMATION

Example College (N) (26)

Welcome to BetterBNC. Fill out the details below in order to gain full access to the site.

2A> You Must Choose a New Password

Confirm Your New Password

2B> Contact First Name

Contact Last Name

Contact Phone

Contact Email

Confirm Email

2C> I agree to the BetterBNC [Terms of Use](#)

2A> If this is your first time logging into your account, choose a new **Password**.

Password must be a minimum of six characters with at least one capital letter and number.

2B> Provide your **account information** and verify it.

2C> Agree to the **Terms of Use** and click **Submit**.

3. BEGIN MAKING ENTRIES

Welcome to the BNC

- My Account
- **Submit Entry**
- Logout

3A> Before submitting entries, it is critical to provide **Publication and School Information**.

The Publication Name must be the name of the NSPA-member Broadcast, Newspaper/ Newsmagazine, Specialty/Literary Arts Magazine, Online site or Yearbook. Do NOT use the name of your student media department.

3A> **Publication and School Information** (All fields are required)

Publication Name
This is the name of the publication, website or broadcast as it appears on the publication or website. Include the name of one publication. DO NOT use "Student Media" instead of the actual publication name. Also, do not include the words "Newspaper", "Magazine" or "Yearbook."

School Name [Use complete name, no abbreviations

School Street Address

City

State [Spell out, do NOT use postal abbreviations

Zip Code

3B> To start making entries, click **Submit Entry** at the top left.

3D> **First Step: Create New Entry**

All entries subject to rules and eligibility requirements.

Division

Category (When a category's entry limit has been reached, the category will no longer appear in the list.)

Headline or Title of Entry

Next Step: Comments, Credits & Other Information

Who should be credited for this entry? Enter the name(s) of the student(s) who created the entry. (Note: If the entry is the work of more than one student, up to five names may be entered.)

Choose
 01_Broadcast Story of the Year
 02_Cartoon of the Year
 03_Design of the Year
 04_Digital Story of the Year
 05_Photo of the Year
 06_Story of the Year
 07_Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
 08_Reporting on Systemic Change
 09_Local Climate Change
 10_Portfolio of the Year
 11_Best Use of Social Media

- 3C>** In the **Create New Entry** box, select the **Division**:
- 01_Broadcast Story of the Year
 - 02_Cartoon of the Year
 - 03_Design of the Year
 - 04_Digital Story of the Year
 - 05_Photo of the Year
 - 06_Story of the Year
 - 07_Diversity, Equity, Inclusion
 - 08_Reporting on Systemic Change
 - 09_Local Climate Change
 - 10_Portfolio of the Year
 - 11_Best Use of Social Media

3D> **First Step: Create New Entry**

All entries subject to rules and eligibility requirements.

Division

Category (When a category's entry limit has been reached, the category will no longer appear in the list.)

Headline or Title of Entry

Choose
 5A News/Breaking News Photo
 5B Feature Photo
 5C Sports Game/Action Photo
 5D Sports Feature Photo
 5E Environmental Portrait

3D> Choose the appropriate **Category**. They vary for each Division.

3E> Division

Category (When a category's entry limit has been reached, the category will no longer appear in the list.)

Headline or Title of Entry

Feature Photo --Category Note
 Delivers a human-interest story with the emphasis on people and environment.

Submission: An image file (JPG, TIF, PNG) is required along with a caption. Do not submit URL link or PDF file.

3E> Enter the **Headline or Title of the Entry**. Use the primary headline from the story or the keywords from the caption lead-in. For designs, use the primary headline from the page/spread.

Next Step: Upload Attachments & Links [Need Help?](#)

Get File(s) to Attach to this Entry

The number of file attachments allowed is determined by your contest rules.

3G>

Choose File

Sample.jpeg

Sample.jpeg

[Browse & Attach More Files](#)

Browse my Scrapbooks

Upload files and URL/Links from scrapbooks. [More info](#)

3H> Next Step: Comments, Credits & Other Info

Caption

3I>

Journalistic caption goes here.

Who should be credited for this entry? Enter the names of up to 5 people.

First Name

Last Name

3J>

Veronica

Teeter

First Name

Last Name

3G>

The next step is **Upload Attachments & Links.**

Upload attachments by clicking. **Choose File**, then selecting your file. To upload more than one file, if allowed, click Browse & Attach More Files.

To enter URLs, use the URL fields.

If allowed, do NOT submit both an attachment and URL link. Select one.

3H>

Provide the information requested in the **Comments, Credits & Other Info** box.

3I>

Entries in the 05_Photo of the Year Division require a complete, journalistic **caption.**

3J>

Correct spelling of the names of **who should be credited for the entry** is critical. The names of up to five journalists are allowed — list them in alphabetical order by last name. List only journalists who played a key role in producing the content.

3K>

Moving on to the **Answer reCAPTCHA and Submit Entry** box, confirm you are not a robot, click **Submit Entry.**

Final Step: Answer reCAPTCHA and Submit Entry

3K>

I am not a robot

Submit Entry

Attachments are uploaded when you click "Submit Entry".


3L> This Page is Your Official Entry Form.

The Entry has been saved.

Entry Details:
Media Organization: **Example College (N) (26)**
Title or Headline: **Molten masterpiece**
Division: **05_Photo of the Year**
Category: **5B Feature Photo**
Entry Code: **2601**
Credits: **Veronica Teeter**
Entry made by **Gary Lundgren, Contestant** on 2023-04-15 13:31:10

★★★★★
05_Photo of the Year CIR CAT5B 2601
Year
Example College (N)
Feature Photo

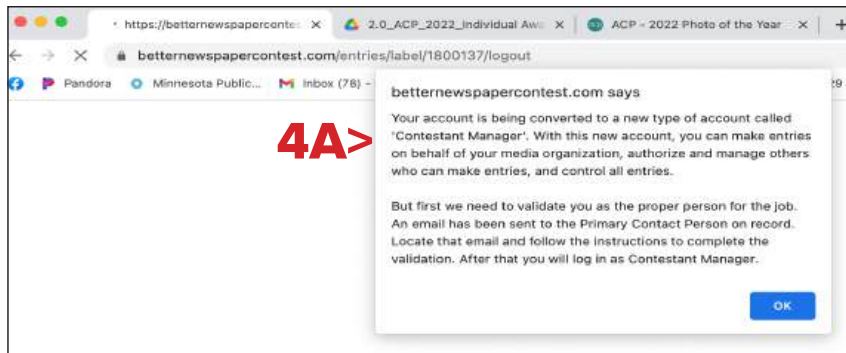
DO NOT HIT YOUR BACK BUTTON



or [Manage Entries](#) | [Logout](#)

3L> The Entry has been saved and **This Page is Your Entry Form** is your confirmation.

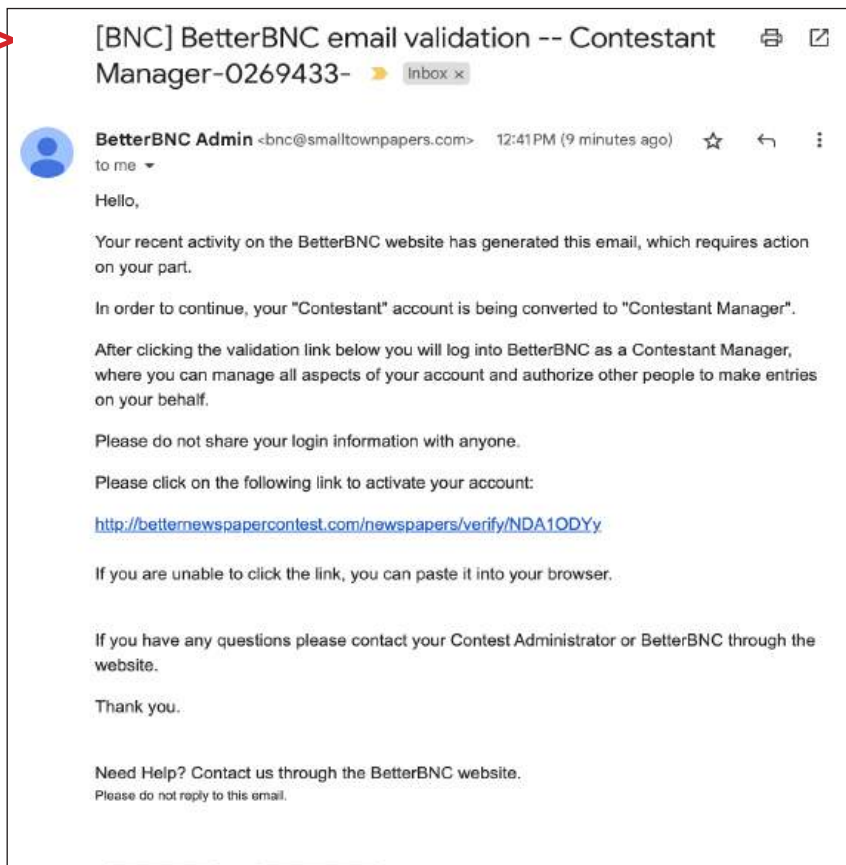
4. VALIDATE YOUR ACCOUNT



4A>

4A> After making entries, the process to validate your account is automated. **A popup will notify you that a validation email has been sent to your email address.** Allow a few minutes for the validation email to arrive.

4B>



4B>

4B> Locate your **email from BetterBNC Admin**, then click on the validation link (or copy and paste the validation link into your browser). If the email doesn't appear in your Inbox, check your spam folder, add the address **bnc@smalltownpapers.com** to your safe sender list, or contact your IT department. You may also contact BetterBNC support at 360.427.6300 on weekdays from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. PT.

5. UPDATE YOUR ACCOUNT INFORMATION

Edit Contestant Manager

Owners	None
Contestant	Example College (N)
Contestant Code	26
Frequency	All
Circ Group	

5A> Primary Contestant Contact Information - Contestant Manager

First Name	Last Name
<input type="text" value="Gary"/>	<input type="text" value="Lundgren"/>
Contestant Manager Email	Confirm Email
<input type="text" value="gary@studentpress.org"/>	<input type="text" value="gary@studentpress.org"/>
Contestant Phone	Contestant Website
<input type="text" value="6124171850"/>	<input type="text"/>
Password	Confirm Password
<input type="password" value="....."/>	<input type="password" value="....."/>

Password must be a minimum of 6 characters long, have at least one capital letter, one lower case letter, and have at least one number.

Mailing Address	Shipping/Physical Address
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as Mailing Address
Number and Street	Number and Street
<input type="text" value="2829 University Avenue SE #720"/>	<input type="text"/>
City	City
<input type="text" value="Minneapolis"/>	<input type="text"/>
State/Province	State/Province
<input type="text" value="MN"/>	<input type="text"/>
Zip/Postal code	Zip/Postal code
<input type="text" value="55414"/>	<input type="text"/>
Country	Country
<input type="text" value="United States"/>	<input type="text"/>

Secondary Contestant Contact Information

Contact Email	Phone
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

5A> As part of the validation process, **confirm your account information again.**

6. AUTHORIZED ENTRANT ACCOUNTS

Secondary Contestant Contact Information

Contact Email Phone

People Authorized to make Entry for this contestant - Authorized Entrants

6A> Contestant Manager Only *Checking this box locks out all Authorized Entrants*

6B> Add More

6A> After you update your account, you can continue making entries.

If you do not want others to make entries, check the **Contestant Manager Only** box.

6B> If you would like to authorize others in your media organization to make entries, as the Contestant Manager, you can create an Authorized Entrant account by checking **Add More** on the black bar at the bottom of the account page.

6C> Complete the **Add Entrant** form and hit "Submit."

Add Entrant

6C> First Name

Last Name

Email

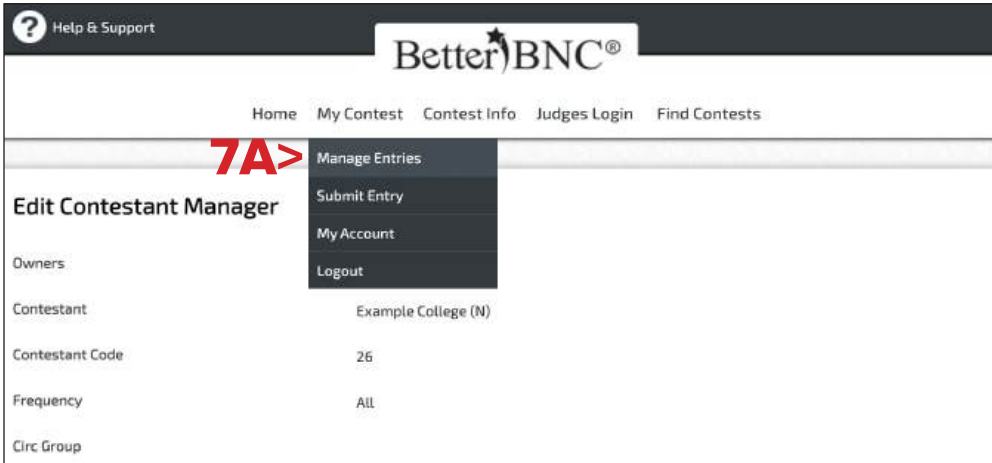
Confirm Email

Password

Confirm Password

Enable *Un-check this box to disable this Authorized Entrant*

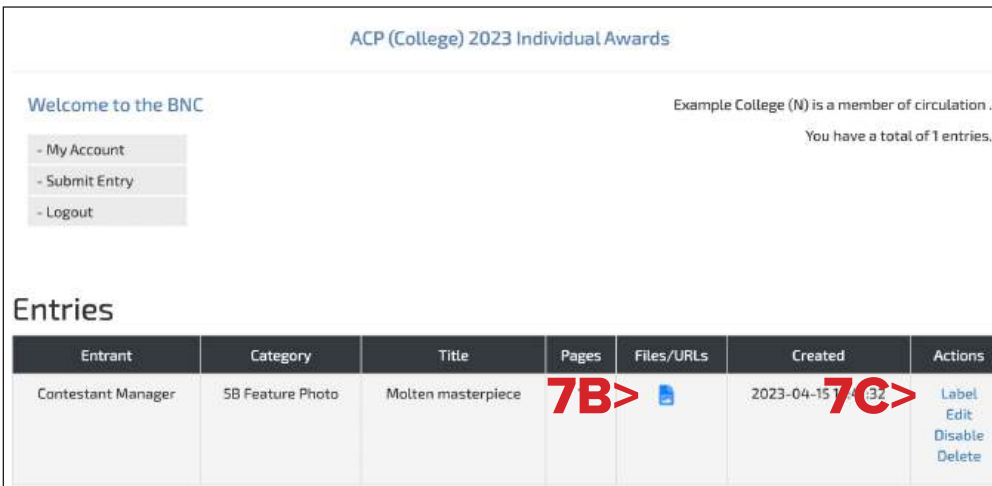
7. MANAGING ENTRIES



7A> From My Contest on the bar at the top, click **Manage Entries**.

7B> It is critical that you verify that attachments and links are uploaded correctly by clicking on the icons in the **Files/URLs** column. If there are no icons in this column, that must be corrected or the entry will be disqualified.

If the rules for the Category indicate only a link or file should be submitted, do NOT submit both.



7C> For each entry, there are four available **Actions** available in the far-right column:

Label (not used for NSPA)

Edit (helpful for review and correcting information)

Disable (entry won't be submitted, but will be saved)

Delete (permanently removal)

The Division and Category can not be changed.

CATEGORIES & RULES

DEADLINE	DEADLINE: The website for award submission will be closed at 5 p.m. CT June 2, 2025 . The deadline will not be reopened.
AWARD PLATFORM	
ELIGIBILITY	AWARD PLATFORM: All entries are submitted using the Better BNC award platform. The site is open to all NSPA-member media outlets that have paid the 2024-25 Individual Awards Entry fee. Assistance with the BetterBNC award platform is available at 360-427-6300, from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Pacific or by emailing cody@smalltownpapers.com .
ENTRY FEE	
ANNOUNCEMENT	
RECOGNITION	
NUMBER OF ENTRIES	ELIGIBILITY: Entries must have been published between June 4, 2024 and June 2, 2025. The contest is open only to student media with a current NSPA membership as of the contest deadline. Any student on the staff of an NSPA-member media outlet is eligible to enter. The entry must be published in the NSPA-member student media. The Diversity, Equity & Inclusion contest and the Fred Ross Systemic Change Journalism Competition do not require NSPA membership.
SUBMISSION	
QUESTIONS	ENTRY FEE: Participation in the NSPA Individual Awards is \$99 in addition to NSPA membership. The 2024-25 Individual Awards Entry fee is available for purchase through the NSPA Store on the NSPA website. The payment deadline is May 27, 2025. ANNOUNCEMENT: Finalists will be announced by September 2024. Winners will be announced at the JEA/NSPA Fall National High School Journalism Convention, Nov. 13-15, 2025, in Nashville. NSPA recognizes finalists and winners in its publications and on its websites and social media sites. NSPA recognizes the

right to publish the entrants' work in its print and online publications as well as on social media.

RECOGNITION: The first-place winner in each category will receive a plaque for the student media outlet and a certificate for up to five students. Second- through 10th-place winners receive certificates. If the entry is the work of more than one student, up to five names will be listed in alphabetical order. If more than five students are responsible, the award will be presented to Staff. Some contests have cash prizes, as noted, and they are provided by co-sponsoring organizations.

NUMBER OF ENTRIES: The number of entries allowed for each contest is indicated. In most cases, two entries per student media outlet are allowed. Staffs are encouraged to work together to select their highest quality work. Entries may not be submitted in more than one category.

SUBMISSION: The submission format required for each contest is indicated. In most categories, a URL link to a website or a PDF file of the printed page is required — but not both. For Photo of the Year contests, actual image files (JPG, TIF, PNG) are required. Word and Google documents will be rejected.

QUESTIONS: Inquires about the NSPA Individual Awards should be directed to Gary Lundgren, NSPA associate director, at gary@studentpress.org. Assistance with the BetterBNC award platform is available at 360.427.6300, from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Pacific or by emailing cody@smalltownpapers.com.

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BROADCAST STORY OF THE YEAR

1.

- 1A. BROADCAST NEWS STORY
- 1B. BROADCAST FEATURE STORY
- 1C. BROADCAST SPORTS STORY
- 1D. BROADCAST COMMENTARY

1A. BROADCAST NEWS STORY

Reporting on breaking news or an issue of importance to your audience that demonstrates strong news-gathering skills while delivering concise information.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link.

1B. BROADCAST FEATURE STORY

Personality profiles or human-interest general features.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link.

1C. BROADCAST SPORTS STORY

Coverage of past or present games or a seasonal summary, may also include profiles of sports personalities or human-interest sports features.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link.

1D. BROADCAST COMMENTARY

An editorial segment designed to inform and persuade an audience.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link.

CARTOON OF THE YEAR

2.

- 2A. COMIC/STRIP PANEL
- 2B. EDITORIAL CARTOON

2A. COMIC STRIP/PANEL

Usually but not always humorous or light-hearted in its message, with a recurring theme or cast of characters. Comics are fictional and for entertainment. Each installment of the comic strip counts as a separate entry.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link or PDF file of printed page. Do not submit both.

2B. EDITORIAL CARTOON

Typically printed on the editorial page or other opinion pages and often communicates an opinion on a subject presented in an accompanying editorial or other timely topic in the news. GIFs or multimedia editorial cartoons are allowed in this category.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link or PDF file of printed page. Do not submit both.

DESIGN OF THE YEAR

3.

- 3A. NEWSPAPER FRONT PAGE
- 3B. NEWSPAPER PAGE/SPREAD
- 3C. NEWSMAGAZINE COVER
- 3D. NEWSMAGAZINE PAGE/SPREAD
- 3E. LITERARY/SPECIALTY MAGAZINE COVER
- 3F. LITERARY/SPECIALTY MAGAZINE PAGE/SPREAD
- 3G. YEARBOOK SPREAD
- 3H. YEARBOOK THEME PACKAGE
- 3I. INFORMATIONAL GRAPHIC
- 3J. ILLUSTRATION
- 3K. NEW // ARTWORK

3A. NEWSPAPER FRONT PAGE

First page featuring dynamic nameplate and compelling verbal and visual content. Credits must be provided for all images except for mug shots.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school newspaper. A publication can not enter both Newspaper (3A, 3B) and Newsmagazine (3C, 3D) categories.

Submission: PDF file of printed page.

3B. NEWSPAPER PAGE/SPREAD

Single-page or spread entries including news, sports, opinion, feature, photo or entertainment that are intended to be viewed without facing pages or two facing pages that together display a single verbal/visual story or a package of related content. Credits must be provided for all images except for mug shots.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school newspaper. A publication can not enter both Newspaper (3A, 3B) and Newsmagazine (3C, 3D) categories.

Submission: PDF file of printed page(s).

3C. NEWSMAGAZINE COVER

First page featuring dynamic nameplate and compelling verbal and visual content. Credits must be provided for all images except for mug shots.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school newsmagazine. A publication can not enter both Newspaper (3A, 3B) and Newsmagazine (3C, 3D) categories.

Submission: PDF file of cover.

3D. NEWSMAGAZINE PAGE/SPREAD

Single-page or spread entries including news, sports, opinion, feature, photo or entertainment that are intended to be viewed without facing pages or two facing pages that together display a single verbal/visual story or a package of related content. Credits must be provided for all images except for mug shots.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school newsmagazine. A publication can not enter both Newspaper (3A, 3B) and Newsmagazine (3C, 3D) categories.

Submission: PDF file of printed page(s).

3E. LITERARY/SPECIALTY MAGAZINE COVER

First page featuring dynamic nameplate and compelling verbal and visual content. Credits must be provided for all images except for mug shots.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school magazine.

Submission: PDF file of cover.

DIGITAL STORY OF THE YEAR

4.

- 4A. MULTIMEDIA NEWS STORY
- 4B. MULTIMEDIA FEATURE STORY
- 4C. MULTIMEDIA SPORTS STORY
- 4D. PHOTO SLIDESHOW
- 4E. INTERACTIVE GRAPHIC
- 4F. PODCAST
- 4G. BLOG

3F. LITERARY/SPECIALTY MAGAZINE PAGE/SPREAD

Single-page or spread entries that display verbal/visual content intended to be viewed without the facing page or two facing pages that together display a single verbal/visual story or a package of related content. Credits must be provided for all images except for mug shots.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school magazine.

Submission: PDF file of printed page(s).

3G. YEARBOOK SPREAD

Facing pages that together display a single verbal/visual story or a collection of related content. Credits must be provided for all images except for mug shots. Spreads such as opening, closing and dividers must be entered in contest 3H. Yearbook Theme Package.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school yearbook.

Submission: PDF file of printed page(s).

3H. YEARBOOK THEME PACKAGE

This package includes cover, endsheets, title page, opening, closing, divider and final/parting page presented together as a portfolio and compiled into a single file. Credits must be provided for all images used except for mug shots.

Number of Entries: One entry per NSPA-member high school yearbook.

Submission: PDF file of the entire theme portfolio.

If the PDF file is too large to upload, submit a URL link to the PDF file on a shared drive taking care that permissions allow judge full access.

3I. INFORMATIONAL GRAPHIC

Combines illustration and information in an easy-to-read presentation. Popular formats include factoids, lists, quizzes, bar charts, line charts, pie charts, tables, ratings, timelines, step-by-step guides, diagrams and maps. Credits must be provided for all images used except for mug shots.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link or PDF file of printed page. Do not submit both.

3J. ILLUSTRATION

Art or photography used to illustrate a story. All elements must be the original work of the photographer/artists. If appropriate for accuracy, must be labeled as an illustration when published. Credits must be provided for all images used except for mug shots.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link or PDF file of printed page. Do not submit both.

3K. NEW // ARTWORK

An original piece of artwork published in a literary arts magazine using different mediums including paint, pencil, charcoal or mixed media.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link or PDF file of printed page. Do not submit both.

4A. MULTIMEDIA NEWS STORY

Reporting on breaking news or an issue of importance to your audience that demonstrates strong news-gathering skills and delivers concise information. In addition to text and images, entry must include audio, video, slideshows, interactive content (maps, timelines, etc.) or animation. Credits must be provided for all images, except for mug shots, as well as for all videos.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link.

4B. MULTIMEDIA FEATURE STORY

Personality profiles, trend stories or human-interest stories; not news or sports. In addition to text and images, entry must include audio, video, slideshows, interactive content (maps, timelines, etc.) or animation. Credits must be provided for all images, except for mug shots, as well as for all videos.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link.

4C. MULTIMEDIA SPORTS STORY

Coverage of games or seasonal summary, may also include profiles of sports personalities or human-interest sports features. In addition to text and images, entry must include audio, video, slideshows, interactive content (maps, timelines, etc.) or animation. Credits must be provided for all images, except for mug shots, as well as for all videos.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link.

4D. PHOTO SLIDESHOW

A photo story on a single subject with each photo communicating a different angle. Captions and photo credits must be included for every image. All images should be the work of student photographers. Credits must be provided for all images.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link.

4E. INTERACTIVE GRAPHIC

Allows reader to navigate through an informational graphic to engage with the information. Popular formats include factoids, lists, quizzes, bar charts, line charts, pie charts, tables, ratings, timelines, step-by-step guides, diagrams and maps. Credits must be provided for all images, except for mug shots, as well as for all videos.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link.

4F. PODCAST

Delivers relevant content through engaging audio storytelling and should appear on your media outlet's NSPA-member website.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link.

STORY OF THE YEAR

4G. BLOG

Must reflect journalistic standards in topics, coverage and writing and should appear on your media outlet's NSPA-member website. Credits must be provided for all images, except for mug shots, as well as for all videos.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link.

PHOTO OF THE YEAR

5.

5A. NEWS PHOTO

5B. FEATURE PHOTO

5C. SPORTS GAME/ACTION PHOTO

5D. SPORTS FEATURE PHOTO

5E. ENVIRONMENTAL PORTRAIT

5A. NEWS PHOTO

Captures a timely visual story and displays news value and evidence of on-the-spot coverage.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high media outlet.

Submission: An image file (JPG, TIF, PNG) is required and a complete journalistic caption must be typed into the entry form. Do not submit URL link or PDF file — they will be disqualified.

5B. FEATURE PHOTO

Delivers a human-interest story with the emphasis on people in their environment.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high media outlet.

Submission: An image file (JPG, TIF, PNG) is required and a complete journalistic caption must be typed into the entry form. Do not submit URL link or PDF file — they will be disqualified.

5C. SPORTS GAME/ACTION PHOTO

Captures the competitive action and emotion of athletes on school teams competing in games, matches and meets or in personal, non-team sports.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: An image file (JPG, TIF, PNG) is required and a complete journalistic caption must be typed into the entry form. Do not submit URL link or PDF file — they will be disqualified.

5D. SPORTS FEATURE PHOTO

Images communicate a story other than direct action on the playing field including human-interest sports stories such as profiles of sports figures.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: An image file (JPG, TIF, PNG) is required and a complete journalistic caption must be typed into the entry form. Do not submit URL link or PDF file — they will be disqualified.

5E. ENVIRONMENTAL PORTRAIT

Posed images of one or more individuals taken in their natural surroundings to provide insight into their work, interests or personality.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: An image file (JPG, TIF, PNG) is required and an identification/caption must be typed into the entry form. Do not submit URL link or PDF file — they will be disqualified.

6.

6A. NEWS STORY

6B. FEATURE STORY

6C. SPORTS STORY

6D. EDITORIAL

6E. OPINION

6F. NEW // CREATIVE WRITING

6A. NEWS STORY

Reporting on breaking news or an issue of importance to your audience that demonstrates strong news-gathering skills and delivers concise information.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link or PDF file of printed page(s). Do not submit both.

The first-place winner in the Story of the Year categories (News Story, Feature Story, Sports Story, Editorial and Opinion) compete for the \$1,000 Brasler Prize.

6B. FEATURE STORY

Personality profiles or human-interest general features.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link or PDF file of printed page(s). Do not submit both.

The first-place winner in the Story of the Year categories (News Story, Feature Story, Sports Story, Editorial and Opinion) compete for the \$1,000 Brasler Prize.

6C. SPORTS STORY

Coverage of past or present games or a seasonal summary, may also include profiles of sports personalities or human-interest sports features.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link or PDF file of printed page(s). Do not submit both.

The first-place winner in the Story of the Year categories (News Story, Feature Story, Sports Story, Editorial and Opinion) compete for the \$1,000 Brasler Prize.

6D. EDITORIAL

The statement of the publication's opinion supported by fact. Editorials generally do not have bylines.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link or PDF file of printed page(s). Do not submit both.

The first-place winner in the Story of the Year categories (News Story, Feature Story, Sports Story, Editorial and Opinion) compete for the \$1,000 Brasler Prize.

6E. OPINION

Columns or bylined opinion pieces providing research and personal insights and anecdotes.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link or PDF file of printed page(s). Do not submit both.

The first-place winner in the Story of the Year categories (News Story, Feature Story, Sports Story, Editorial and Opinion) compete for the \$1,000 Brasler Prize.

6F. NEW // CREATIVE WRITING

An original piece of writing published in a literary arts magazine including poems, essays and short stories.

Number of Entries: Two entries per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link or PDF file of printed page(s). Do not submit both.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

7.

7A. DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION REPORTING

7A. DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION REPORTING

The University of Minnesota's Hubbard School of Journalism and Mass Communication has joined the National Scholastic Press Association in launching the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion competition.

Stories from all platforms are eligible. Long-form stories, published in print or online, should be accompanied by sidebars, graphics and data. Broadcast packages may also be entered.

Eligible coverage will include but not be limited to race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability and other differences.

Winners receive a \$500 cash award presented by the Hubbard School.

Number of Entries: Unlimited high school entries, NSPA membership not required.

Submission: URL link for broadcast and online or PDF file for print. Do not submit both. Non-NSPA members may enter this competition by emailing gary@studentpress.org.

REPORTING ON SYSTEMIC CHANGE

8.

8A. FRED ROSS SYSTEMIC CHANGE JOURNALISM COMPETITION

The Foundation for Systemic Change has joined NSPA in creating the Fred Ross Systemic Change Journalism Competition. The competition is named for Fred Ross, a renowned advocate and organizer who trained and mentored leaders like Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta to become iconic grassroots organizers.

8A. FRED ROSS SYSTEMIC CHANGE JOURNALISM COMPETITION

Eligible coverage focuses on the systemic change taking place in school and local communities to address today's complex challenges including climate change, violence and hate, polarization, racial inequalities, LGBTQ+ issues, threatened democracy and other complex issues.

Stories should answer these questions:

- > What is the complex challenge that requires systemic change?
- > How are the people/organization addressing the challenge being covered address the challenge in a systemic manner?

The foundation offers free online workshops and industry-recognized advisers to mentor student journalists. Participation is encouraged before beginning reporting and writing. Sign up for mentorship opportunities on the Foundation's website.

www.foundationforsystemicchange.org/journalism-competition

The first-place winner earns \$1,000, and the second and third place winners \$500 and \$200 respectively. Team reporting is permitted, and the cash prize will be divided among the names on the entry form.

Published stories from all platforms including print, broadcast or mixed media are eligible and should be accompanied by sidebars, graphics and data.

Number of Entries: Unlimited high school entries, NSPA membership not required.

Submission: URL link or PDF file. Do not submit both.

LOCAL CLIMATE CHANGE

9.

9A. LOCAL CLIMATE CHANGE REPORTING

Climate change is one of the most important stories of our generation. These contests in partnership with the George Mason University Center for Climate Change Communication, encourage local climate change reporting by scholastic media.

All student journalists who are interested in reporting on climate change as a local story are encouraged to use the Climate Matters in the Newsroom reporting resources, science-based reporting materials that are funded, in part, by the National Science Foundation.

www.climatecentral.org/resources

9A. LOCAL CLIMATE CHANGE REPORTING

Long-form stories, published in print or online, should be accompanied by sidebars, graphics and data. Broadcast packages may also be entered. These materials can be used in award submissions.

The first-place winner earns \$500, and the second and third place winners \$300 and \$200 respectively. Team reporting is permitted, and the cash prize will be divided among the names on the entry form.

Number of Entries: Unlimited entries per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: URL link for broadcast and online or PDF file for print. Do not submit both.

PORTFOLIO OF THE YEAR

10.

- 10A. ARTIST OF THE YEAR
- 10B. BROADCAST JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR
- 10C. DESIGNER OF THE YEAR
- 10D. MARKETER OF THE YEAR
- 10E. MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR
- 10F. PHOTOJOURNALIST OF THE YEAR
- 10G. WRITER OF THE YEAR

10A. ARTIST OF THE YEAR

Each member high school media outlet may nominate one person. Portfolio includes a one-page statement from the nominee explaining contributions and what was learned. Portfolio features five original pieces of print, digital or multi-media art including editorial cartoons and comic strips featuring the nominee's talents published this year along with one to three sentences describing each piece. All work featured in the portfolio must be published in an NSPA-member media outlet. Portfolio should be a personal website or PDF file with links.

Number of Entries: One entry per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link or PDF file of portfolio. Do not submit both.

10B. BROADCAST JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Each member high school media outlet may nominate one person. Portfolio includes a one-page statement from the nominee explaining contributions and what was learned.

Portfolio features five original broadcast stories featuring the nominee's talents published this year along with one to three sentences describing each piece. Portfolio should be a personal website or PDF file with links.

Number of Entries: One entry per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link or PDF file of portfolio. Do not submit both.

10C. DESIGNER OF THE YEAR

Each member high school media outline may nominate one person. Portfolio includes a one-page statement from the nominee explaining contributions and what was learned. Portfolio features five original designs featuring the nominee's talents published this school year along with one to three sentences describing each piece. Entries may include complete spreads, pages, advertisements, covers, informational graphics, sidebars, etc. from print, web or video. All work featured in the portfolio must be published in an NSPA-member media outlet. Portfolio should be a personal website or PDF file with links.

Number of Entries: One entry per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link or PDF file of portfolio. Do not submit both.

10D. MARKETER OF THE YEAR

Each member high school media outlet may nominate one person. Portfolio includes a one-page statement from the nominee explaining contributions and what was learned. Portfolio features a detailed marketing plan that was implemented this year with results documented. Portfolio should be a personal website or PDF file with links.

Number of Entries: One entry per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link or PDF file of portfolio. Do not submit both.

10E. MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Each member high school media outlet may nominate one person. Portfolio includes a one-page statement from the nominee explaining contributions and what was learned. Portfolio features five stories featuring the nominee's talents published this school year along with one to three sentences describing each piece. In addition to text and images, multimedia entries must include audio, video, slideshows, interactive content (maps, timelines, etc.) and animation as part of each robust story package. All work featured in the portfolio must be published in an NSPA-member media outlet. Portfolio should be a personal website or PDF file with links.

Number of Entries: One entry per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link or PDF file of portfolio. Do not submit both.

10F. PHOTOJOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Each member high school media outlet may nominate one person. Portfolio includes a one-page statement from the nominee explaining contributions and what was learned. Portfolio features five images featuring the nominee's talents published this school year along with one to three sentences describing each piece. Captions must be published with the images and included as part of the entry. All work featured in the portfolio must be published in an NSPA-member media outlet. Portfolio should be a personal website or PDF file with links.

Number of Entries: One entry per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link or PDF file of portfolio. Do not submit both.

10G. WRITER OF THE YEAR

Each member high school media outlet may nominate one person. Portfolio includes a one-page statement from the nominee explaining contributions and what was learned. Portfolio features five pieces of journalistic writing featuring the nominee's talents published this school year. All work featured in the portfolio must be published in an NSPA-member media outlet. Portfolio should be a personal website or PDF file with links.

Number of Entries: One entry per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: Website URL link or PDF file of portfolio. Do not submit both.

BEST USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

11.

- 11A. SOCIAL MEDIA REPORTING
- 11B. SOCIAL MEDIA PROMOTION

11A. SOCIAL MEDIA REPORTING

Coverage using social media platforms for reporting, updating and engaging with the school community. Collect social-media examples by capturing screenshots with links to create a PDF portfolio.

Number of Entries: One entry per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: PDF file of portfolio.

11B. SOCIAL MEDIA PROMOTION

Using social media platforms for promoting traffic to an online site, broadcast or print news publication or to promote the sale of the yearbook. Collect social-media examples by capturing screenshots with links to create a PDF portfolio.

Number of Entries: One entry per NSPA-member high school media outlet.

Submission: PDF file of portfolio.