

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

JEA/NSPA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM CONVENTION
APRIL 4-6, SHERATON & WESTIN HOTELS AT CROWN CENTER



Welcome to Kansas City – the heart of America, the city of fountains and home to the next [JEA/NSPA National High School Journalism Convention!](#)

Over the coming weeks, the KC local committee will be sharing many things with the scholastic journalism community to help you start planning your spring convention trip. Information from airport transportation to our keynote to things to do and see and eat while you're here – we'll try to cover everything!

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Jan. 15:** speaker proposals due [via Google Form](#)
- **Jan. 17:** convention registration opens at noon CT
- **Jan. 24:** hotel block opens
- **Jan. 25:** [first-time convention grant](#) applications due
- **Feb. 5:** [JEA National Student Media Contest](#) registration opens
- **Feb. 12:** scholarship applications due
- **Feb. 15:** [JEA Outreach Academy](#) application deadline
- **Feb. 16:** convention early bird rate ends
- **March 1:** hotel block closes at 6 p.m. CT
- **March 11:** NSMC online submission deadline, registration closes at 6 p.m. CT
- **March 22:** online registration closes
- **April 4-6:** convention dates

IMPORTANT COSTS

- **Early bird convention registration:** \$125 for JEA or NSPA members, \$175 for nonmembers
- **Standard convention registration:** \$145 for JEA or NSPA members, \$195 for nonmembers
- **Convention hotel block:** \$236 per night, plus tax
- **Extra convention costs:** first-time convention grant applications due
- **NSMC:** \$20 per student
- **NSPA registration extras:** \$5-110, depending on the add-on

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

- **JEA:** staff@jea.org
- **NSPA:** info@studentpress.org
- **Kansas City Local Chair:** Tucker Love, tuckerlove152@smsd.org

Meet our keynote speaker –



Jim Richardson

- National Geographic Photographer
- Cuba, Kansas Honored Citizen
- 2007 Kansan of the Year
- 2015 "Photographer's Photographer" named by fellow National Geographic photographers
- 2017 honorary doctorate bestowed by Kansas State University for his work in cultural and environmental communications
- Resident of [Lindsborg, Kansas](#)

For those who have seen Jim Richardson speak in the past, you may have noticed he doesn't speak about himself directly. Rather, Richardson finds a way to hook his audience into the stories of the various people and places he has photographed throughout his career as a professional photographer. He is a true storyteller, through and through. His work reflects this, and the way he shares that work demonstrates the importance of visual storytelling and its connection to both spoken and written words – conversations and captions.

Richardson's own story is told through the images he shares of projects such as "[High School USA](#)" or "[Scottish Moors](#)." Whether he's documenting high school adolescence in 1979 or the use and preservation of land in Scotland, Richardson tells his audiences how he connects with others. Even in work focused on the environment, such as his documentation of the [Great Plains, Celtic Lands](#), or his [Agriculture](#) series, there is always a connection to people. The ability to connect to people through the images solidifies Richardson's place as one of the best storytellers of our time.



Besides photographing more than [50 stories for National Geographic](#), Richardson's work has been featured on ABC News Nightline and CBS News Sunday Morning. He has also used his skills to teach at the Missouri Photo Workshop, Photography at the Summit workshops, Santa Fe Photo Workshops and helped found and develop the National Geographic TRAVELER photo seminars. He is also the co-founder of [Eyes on Earth](#), an education initiative that seeks to inspire a new generation of visual storytellers for the Anthropocene era – or more simply, help develop and nurture photographers to capture our world "in an unprecedented era of environmental change."



more of Richardson's work like the images featured above can be found [on his website](#)
photos provided by Jim Richardson

KEYNOTE GUIDE – THURSDAY, APRIL 4

PRE-KEYNOTE

- check in at NSPA/JEA registration desk
- eat dinner by 6 p.m. OR
- eat dinner after 9 p.m.

6:30 P.M.

doors open to ballroom. Local entertainment welcomes the crowd and gets things going.

7:00 P.M.

keynote & welcome start time. JEA & NSPA introductions, local team welcome, and keynote introduction.

9:00 P.M.

approximate end time for the keynote. Adviser welcome reception to follow.

SOME HELPFUL TIPS

- get there early if you want good seats (or a seat at all – the room might fill up)
- the JEA/NSPA welcome typically lasts about 40-45 minutes with intros & awards
- the keynote typically lasts about an hour and is typically followed by an audience Q&A
- if leaving early, the best time to do so is during the Q&A (but you should stay for all of it!)