

2014 Excellence in Journalism Contest

MEDIA TYPE CLASSIFICATIONS

all entries compete against entries in the same media type, except for the plaque awards

Over 40,000 circulation
18,000 to 40,000 circulation
Below 18,000 circulation
Regional Non-Daily
Community Non-Daily
Magazine
Special Supplement
Television
Radio
Online

SPECIAL PLAQUE AWARDS

open to all media circulations

Stephen A. Collins Public Service Award

A single story or stories having a significant impact in the public interest. Entries must include supporting documentation such as letters, editorials, evidence of a change in public policy, etc. showing how the entry had an impact.

Theodore Driscoll Award For Investigative Reporting

A single story or formal series containing information, obtained through reporter initiative, not readily available to the news media or public.

First Amendment Award

A single story, column or series that increases public understanding of the role of the press in a free society.

EDITORIAL

General Column | A single column (other than sports, opinion, or Op-Ed) that does not express a strong opinion or point of view on an issue or an event.

Opinion Column | An opinion column clearly states an opinion on an issue or an event. It must appear in any section other than Op-Ed or Sports pages.

Editorial Cartoon | A single cartoon that appears online or in print.

Op-Ed Column | An op-ed column must have been published in the Op-Ed section of a paper or in a designated

Op-Ed section of an online publication. Websites without that designation should enter under the category "Opinion Column" or "General Column."

Single Editorial | A single editorial represents the opinion of the publication, station, or news website as an organization. It can be written by one or more than one person.

REPORTING

In-Depth Series | A formal series helping audience understand a situation beyond information provided in a normal news story. Limit one series per entrant. Continuing coverage of a topic DOES NOT count as a series.

In-Depth Reporting | A single story helping audience understand situation beyond information provided in a normal news story.

Investigative Series | A formal series containing information obtained through reporter initiative that was not readily available to the news media or the general public. Limit one series per entrant. Continuing coverage of a topic DOES NOT count as a series.

Investigative Story | A formal series containing information obtained through reporter initiative that was not readily available to the news media or the general public.

Spot News | A single story involving coverage of a spot news event on an immediate deadline. Social media posts can be incorporated into the entry.

Feature Reporting | A single story written for some factor other than timeliness.

Feature Series | A series written or produced for some factor other than timeliness.

General Reporting | A single news story not covered by any other category.

General Reporting Series | A formal series that does not fit into any other category. Limit one series per entrant. Continuing coverage of a topic DOES NOT count.

Arts & Entertainment | A single entry dealing with the arts.

Business | A single article on a business topic.

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SPORTS

Sports News | A single story on a sports news topic.

Sports Feature | A single story on a sports news topic, written for a factor other than timeliness.

Sports Column | A single column on a sports topic.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Sports Photo | A single sports photo. All photo entries must include the photographer's name. Any photos entered under "Staff," "Contributed" or similar credits will be disqualified.

Feature Photo | A single feature photo. All photo entries must include the photographer's name. Any photos entered under "Staff," "Contributed" or similar credits will be disqualified.

Photo Layout | The photo layout category is not a design category. It is for photos only – not their arrangement. It generally should be for the work of one photographer. All photo entries must include the photographer's name. Any photos entered under "Staff," "Contributed" or similar credits will be disqualified.

News Photo | A single photo taken for news value. All photo entries must include the photographer's name. Any photos entered under "Staff," "Contributed" or similar credits will be disqualified.

LAYOUT

Page 1 Layout | A category for the person who arranged the text and the illustrations, not for the writers and photographers of the materials on the page.

Non-Page 1 Layout | A category for the person who arranged the text and the illustrations, not for the writers and photographers of the materials on the page.

Headline | A single entry is made up of three headlines. All three headlines must be the work of a single individual, but not necessarily from the same publication. Entries involving the work of more than one person will be declared ineligible. If submitting a PDF, highlight the headlines to be considered.

GRAPHICS

Informational Graphic | A static graphic that appears in print, online or in a broadcast to augment reporting on a topic. Entrant should be the person who designed the graphic.

MULTIMEDIA

Video Storytelling | Excellent use of video to either tell a story alone, or bolster written reporting.

Audio Storytelling | Excellent use of audio to either tell a story alone, or bolster written reporting.

Interactive Graphic Reporting | The reporting behind an interactive graphic, whether it be created by a designer or using free Internet tools.

Interactive Graphic Design | Creation of a functional interactive graphic using tools such as Flash or HTML. This category is meant for the person who designed the graphic.

ENTRY FEES

- \$10 for active Connecticut SPJ members
- \$25 for non-members and news organizations
- \$50 for the special plaque awards categories
- \$5 for student members
- \$10 for students who are not members

If you do not know your member number, please contact SPJ's national membership coordinator Linda Hall at LindaH@SPJ.org or at (317) 927-8000.

ELIGIBLE NEWS MEDIA

Print newspapers, magazines, television, radio, online-only publications and special supplements with at least 51 percent of the intended circulation or audience in Connecticut. The Associated Press is judged in the over 40,000 category.

Maximum three entries per category per entrant.

JUDGING

The contest entries are judged by qualified journalists in states outside of Connecticut. The names of the judges are not released.

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