

2014 Hawaii High School Journalism Awards

Sponsored by Hawaii Publishers Association, Honolulu Star-Advertiser, MidWeek and University of Hawaii

Purpose:

1. To recognize and reward the work of students enrolled in high school journalism programs.
2. To encourage student interest in all aspects of journalism.
3. To encourage students to continue their journalism studies at the college level and to consider journalism as a career choice.
4. To help promote pride in each high school and excellence in its student media program.

Awards:

1. Schools will compete against schools in their group (public and private) for one award in each of the categories listed below. The deadline is Friday, March 21, 2014.
 - Best News Writing: PDF of page(s) not exceeding 5 mb
 - Best Feature Writing: PDF of page(s) not exceeding 5 mb
 - Best Sports Writing: PDF of page(s) not exceeding 5 mb
 - Best Editorial Writing: PDF of page(s) not exceeding 5 mb
 - Best Layout and Design (Single-page or double truck): PDF of page(s) or Issuu.com URL
 - Best Photography: PDF or jpeg of image, plus PDF of page, each not exceeding 5 mb
 - Best Illustration (Photo Illustration, line drawing, art, digital art): PDF or jpeg of image, plus PDF of page, each not exceeding 5 mb
 - Best Editorial Cartoon: PDF or jpeg of image, plus PDF of page, each not exceeding 5 mb
 - Best Single Issue: Issuu.com URL
 - Best Online News Writing: URL
 - Best Online Feature Writing: URL
 - Best Online Sports Writing: URL
 - Best Online Editorial Writing: URL
 - Best Online Photo: URL
 - Best Online Video: Vimeo or YouTube URL
 - Best Online Editorial Cartoon: URL
 - Best Online Illustration: URL
 - Best Overall Website: up to six URLs
 - Best Online Multimedia Presentation: up to six URLs
 - Best Awards CD Cover and Poster: PDF or jpeg not exceeding 5 mb
2. Group winners then will compete for STATEWIDE awards in the above categories.
3. The school with the most accumulated points from all categories will determine the winner of: Best of Hawaii Journalism Awards: first, second and third place.
4. Most Valuable Staffer (MVS) Award: Individual schools may designate the recipient of their school's Most Valuable Staffer Award.

Pictures and Designation form for the chosen MVS must be turned in by Friday, April 4, 2014.

2014 HAWAII HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM AWARDS JUDGING CRITERIA BY CATEGORY, SCORED ON A RANGE OF 1-5

PRINT DIVISION

Best News Writing (101)

1. The lead is concise, compelling and draws the reader in.
2. The story states the issues of facts clearly and provides context so the issue or problem can be clearly understood.
3. The story organizes issues and facts coherently and appropriately; e.g. in hard news, deadline story, facts are inverted pyramid, from the most to the least important; a news feature uses an hourglass or some other clear method of organization.
4. Spelling, punctuation, usage and grammar are correct. Mistakes and typos are at a minimum.
5. Language is descriptive without clichés, jargon or excessive slang.
6. There is no editorializing. The story covers the issue or event with impartiality and balance. Quotes are correctly attributed and sources of information are identified.

Best Feature Writing (102)

1. The topic is of current or local interest and is interesting, informative, entertaining or amusing.
2. Spelling, punctuation, usage and grammar are correct. Typos are at a minimum.
3. The writing is clear, understandable and avoids clichés, jargon and slang. It uses description, detail and color to build the story.
4. Quotes add to the story – they do not merely restate information already in the story.
5. The writer involves the reader and evokes an emotional response to the subject.

Best Sports Writing (103)

1. The lead is concise, compelling and draws the reader in. If a news story, the score is in the first paragraph.
2. The writer has avoided editorializing or partisanship, clichés, sports jargon and clutter.
3. Spelling, punctuation, usage and grammar are correct. Typos are at a minimum.
4. The writer has talked with players, coaches and/or fans, and tells the story from their perspectives. Quotes do not merely restate the information already in the story.
5. The writer uses description, detail and color to build the story.

Best Editorial Writing (104)

1. The editorial concerns an issue of interest to the school or community.
2. The issue is clearly laid out at the start of an editorial.
3. The writing is clear. Spelling, punctuation, usage and grammar are correct. Typos are at a minimum.
4. The writer takes a clear position and cites facts, examples, testimony and other means to support his/her reasoning.
5. Opposing views are summarized and thoughtful, reasonable rebuttals are offered in answer.
6. A solution is offered.

Best Layout and Design (Single Page or Double Truck) (105)

1. The newspaper has an appealing balance of text, display type, photographs and illustrations. It uses layout tools such as fonts, rules, borders, screens, color, revers or tricked-out type, cut-outs or clip art.
2. Stories are placed and displayed according to their importance from the front of the paper and throughout the inside pages.
3. Headline sizes are appropriate to the importance of the story and the headline length is suitable to what must be stated.
4. Photos and illustrations are well displayed, appropriately sized and framed with sufficient white space.
5. Careful attention is paid to details: credits, captions, by-lines and masthead. Lines and boxes are straight and neat, and the design follows guidelines from the newspaper's stylebook.
6. Its overall appearance is lively and attractive. It invites readers to pause, read and enjoy.

Best Photography (106)

1. The photograph makes a statement or has impact.
2. The photograph is well composed; it has balance and visual interest. It is not static, cluttered or hard-to-understand.
3. Anyone prominently featured in the photo is identified and the photographer or source is credited. In addition, the cutline includes essential information, including what the reader cannot see.
4. The image has stopping power. It is correctly cropped to eliminate unnecessary elements and improve visual impact. The photograph is in focus with proper lighting.

5. The photograph illustrates the story it accompanies, or if it stands alone, it illustrates some aspect of school life relevant to its readers. If it depicts a news or sports event, the photography is not posed but rather accurately reflects the event.

Best Illustration (107)

1. The illustration makes a statement on its own. If a caption is used, it is appropriate and descriptive.
2. The illustration shows originality.
3. The illustration is well composed, balanced and visually interesting.
4. The illustration is cleanly drawn and shows quality of artistry.
5. The illustration is appropriate to the story it accompanies, or if it stands alone, it depicts some aspect of school life relevant to its readers.

Best Editorial Cartoon (108)

1. The editorial cartoon concerns an issue of current interest.
2. The editorial cartoon makes a statement and expresses a clear opinion.
3. The cartoon is well composed, balance and visually interesting.
4. The cartoon is cleanly drawn and shows quality of artistry.

Best Single Issue (109)

1. The newspaper, at a minimum, contains all the essential elements: news, features, sports, art and editorials. It has a good balance of stories to art and is attractive. Offering more than what is essential – in content and display - gets extra points.
2. Stories maintain a high level of quality throughout the paper. They are interesting, complete and well written, according to accepted journalism standards.
3. Photos and illustrations have technical merit, story-telling content and visual appeal. They are used with good artistic and editorial judgment.
4. Spelling, punctuation, usage and grammar are correct throughout the paper. Mistakes and typos are at a minimum.
5. Overall, the newspaper reflects sound news judgment and a focus on the interest and concerns of the students. It informs, entertains and prompts thought and action.

ONLINE DIVISION

Best Online Video (201)

1. The video concerns an issue of student interest.
2. The video uses interviews, standups and/or voiceovers to advance the story.
3. Visuals include a range of long, medium and close-up shots, and the shots are well composed, balance and focused.
4. Audio is clear.
5. Graphics are used to identify story elements and/or subjects.
6. Video loads quickly and is viewable through computer, tablet, and mobile device.

Best Online News (202)

1. The news story or package breaks online before print version (if any).
2. Story includes multimedia (including audio, video, graphics, interactives, Flash, animation, maps, social media, polls, quizzes, public records, PDFs, databases, blogs, user-generated content and/or slide shows or galleries).
3. Package provides opportunities for readers to converse about the content.
4. Story includes links to related and verified information and websites.
5. The reporting is objective, includes sources, facts and attributed quotes, and concerns an issue of student interest. The lead is concise and states the issues or facts clearly and provides content so the issue or problem can be understood. Spelling and grammar are correct throughout.

Best Online Feature (203)

1. The feature story or package breaks online before print version, and the writing is clear, understandable and avoids clichés, jargon and slag. It uses quotes, description, detail and color to build the story. The writer involves the reader and evokes an emotional response.
2. Story includes multimedia (including audio, video, graphics, interactives, Flash, animation, maps, social media, polls, quizzes, public records, PDFs, databases, blogs, user-generated content and/or slide shows or photo galleries).
3. Package provides opportunities for readers to converse about the content.
4. Story includes links to related and verified information and websites.

5. The topic is of current or local interest, and is interesting, informative, entertaining or amusing.

Best Online Sports (204)

1. The sports story or package breaks online before print version.
2. Sports story includes multimedia (including audio, video, graphics, interactives, Flash, animation, maps, social media, polls, quizzes, public records, PDFs, databases, blogs, user-generated content and/or slide shows or galleries).
3. Package provides opportunities for readers to converse about the content.
4. Story includes links to supporting and verified information, websites, rosters, player and coach bios.
5. The lead is concise, compelling and includes the score (if one) in the first paragraph; story avoids editorializing, jargon, clichés, misspellings and grammatical errors, the writer talks to players, coaches and fans to tell the story from their perspectives and quotes; and the writer uses description, detail and color to build the piece.

Best Online Editorial (205)

1. The editorial or package breaks online before print version (if any).
2. Editorial includes multimedia (including audio, video, graphics, interactives, Flash, animation, maps, social media, polls, quizzes, public records, PDFs, databases, blogs, user-generated content and/or slide shows or galleries).
3. Package provides opportunities for readers to converse about the content.
4. Editorial includes links to related and verified information.
5. The editorial concerns an issue of student and community interest; the issue is clearly laid out; the writing is clear and takes a position using facts to support; opposing views are summarized and rebutted; and a solution is offered.

Best Online Photo (206)

1. The photograph makes a statement or has impact.
2. The photograph is well composed; it has balance and visual interest. It is not static, cluttered or hard-to-understand.
3. Anyone prominently featured in the photo is identified and the photographer or source is credited. In addition, the cutline includes essential information, including what the reader cannot see.
4. The image has stopping power. It is correctly cropped to eliminate unnecessary elements and improve visual impact. The photograph is in focus with proper lighting.
5. The photograph illustrates the story it accompanies, or if it stands alone, it illustrates some aspect of school life relevant to its readers. If it depicts a news or sports event, the photography is not posed but rather accurately reflects the event.

Best Online Illustration (207)

1. The illustration makes a statement on its own. If a caption is used, it is appropriate and descriptive.
2. The illustration shows originality.
3. The illustration is well composed, balanced and visually interesting.
4. The illustration is cleanly drawn and shows quality of artistry.
5. The illustration is appropriate to the story it accompanies, or if it stands alone, it depicts some aspect of school life relevant to its readers.

Best Online Cartoon (208)

1. The editorial cartoon concerns an issue of current interest.
2. The editorial cartoon makes a statement and expresses a clear opinion.
3. The cartoon is well composed, balance and visually interesting.
4. The cartoon is cleanly drawn and shows quality of artistry.
5. The cartoon is animated.

Best Multimedia Presentation (on a single topic displaying outstanding use of multimedia) (209)

1. The presentation includes a mixture of text, link, audio, video, graphics, interactives, Flash, animation, maps, social media, polls, quizzes, comments/discussion, public records, PDFs, databases, blogs, user-generated content and/or slide shows.
2. The presentation concerns an issue of student interest.
3. The individual elements (text, photos, video, audio, graphics, etc.) strive for the highest technical and journalistic standards.

Best Overall Web Site (submit three links) (210)

1. The website's homepage has an appealing balance of text, display type, photographs and graphics.
2. The website is easy to navigate; using menus or tabs that work and provide content when clicked.
3. Content is written and organized for the Web and provides multimedia approaches and links to additional sites or resources.

4. A link is provided to PDF version of a print newspaper or other student media and the site can be viewed on mobile devices.
5. The site provides readers with opportunities to comment, contact information for the site/staff and archives of earlier content.

CD Cover and Poster Award (110)

1. The design incorporates the theme “Making a Change” and includes the text “Making a Change” and “2014 Hawaii High School Journalism Awards.”
2. The design meets the entry format of 300 DPI square shape that will reproduce as 2’x’2’ poster and be legible when reduced to 5” x 5” (size of CD cover). Design should allow space for sponsor logos.
3. Illustrations, graphics or photos used in the design support the theme “Making a Change.”