

**Hawaii Publishers Association
2014 Hawaii High School Journalism Awards
Judging Sheets**

PRINT

1. Best News
2. Best Feature
3. Best Sports
4. Best Editorial
5. Best Layout/Design (Single page or double truck)
6. Best Photography
7. Best Illustration
8. Best Cartoon
9. Best Single Issue

ONLINE

1. Best Video
2. Best News
3. Best Feature
4. Best Sports
5. Best Editorial
6. Best Photography
7. Best Illustration
8. Best Cartoon
9. Best Multimedia
10. Best Website

CONTEST

1. Best Awards Poster and CD Cover

HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM AWARDS

Judging Sheet for BEST NEWS WRITING

Judging in this category will be on a sliding scale as indicated. The higher the number, the higher the rating you have given the paper.

SCORE

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|-------|
| 1. | The lead is concise, compelling and draws the readers in. | | | | | | | | _____ |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | | |
| 2. | The story states the issues or facts clearly and provides context so the issue or problem can be clearly understood. | | | | | | | | _____ |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | | |
| 3. | The story organizes issues and facts coherently and appropriately; e.g., in a hard news, deadline story, facts are in inverted pyramid form, from the most to the least important; a news feature uses an hourglass or some other clear method of organization. | | | | | | | | _____ |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | | |
| 4. | Spelling, punctuation, usage and grammar are correct throughout the paper. Mistakes and typos are at a minimum. | | | | | | | | _____ |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | | |
| 5. | Language is descriptive without clichés, jargon or excessive slang. | | | | | | | | _____ |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | | |
| 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.. | | | | | | | | _____ |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | | |

GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS: Please include any thoughts that could be helpful to the school's newspaper staff and advisers.

SCHOOL: _____

TOTAL POINTS _____

HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM AWARDS

Judging Sheet for BEST FEATURE WRITING

Judging in this category will be on a sliding scale as indicated. The higher the number, the higher the rating you have given the paper.

SCORE

1. The topic is of current or local interest, and is interesting, informative, entertaining or amusing.
1 2 3 4 5 _____

2. The writing is clear. Spelling, punctuation, usage and grammar are correct. Mistakes and typos are at a minimum.
1 2 3 4 5 _____

3. The writing is clear, understandable and avoids clichés, jargon and slang. It uses description, detail and color to build the story.
1 2 3 4 5 _____

4. Quotes are used to help carry the story and do not merely restate information already in the story.
1 2 3 4 5 _____

5. The writer involves the reader and evokes an emotional response to the subject.
1 2 3 4 5 _____

GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS: Please include any thoughts that could be helpful to the school's newspaper staff and advisers.

SCHOOL: _____

TOTAL POINTS _____

HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM AWARDS

Judging Sheet for BEST SPORTS WRITING

Judging in this category will be on a sliding scale as indicated. The higher the number, the higher the rating you have given the paper.

SCORE

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

GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS: Please include any thoughts that could be helpful to the school's newspaper staff and advisers.

SCHOOL: _____

TOTAL POINTS _____

HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM AWARDS

Judging Sheet for BEST EDITORIAL WRITING

Judging in this category will be on a sliding scale as indicated. The higher the number, the higher the rating you have given the paper.

SCORE

- | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|-------|
| 1. | The editorial concerns an issue of interest to the school or community. | | | | | | | _____ |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | |
| 2. | The issue is clearly laid out at the start of the editorial. | | | | | | | _____ |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | |
| 3. | The writing is clear. Spelling, punctuation, usage and grammar are correct throughout the paper. Mistakes and typos are at a minimum. | | | | | | | _____ |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | |
| 4. | The writer takes a clear position and uses facts, examples, testimony, and reasoning in support of it. | | | | | | | _____ |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | |
| 5. | Opposing views are summarized and thoughtful, reasonable arguments are offered in answer. | | | | | | | _____ |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | |
| 6. | A solution is offered. | | | | | | | _____ |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | |

GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS: Please include any thoughts that could be helpful to the school's newspaper staff and advisers.

SCHOOL: _____

TOTAL POINTS _____

HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM AWARDS

Judging Sheet for BEST LAYOUT AND DESIGN

Judging in this category will be on a sliding scale as indicated. The higher the number, the higher the rating you have given the paper.

SCORE

1. The newspaper page or pages (package) has an appealing balance of text, display type, photographs and illustrations. It uses layout tools such as fonts, rules, borders, screens, color, reverse or tricked-out type, cut-outs or clip art.

1 2 3 4 5

2. Story and sidebars are placed and displayed according to their importance on the page(s) and on jump pages.

1 2 3 4 5

3. Headline sizes are appropriate to the importance of the story and the headline length is suitable to what must be stated.

1 2 3 4 5

4. Photos and illustrations are well displayed, appropriately sized and framed with sufficient white space.

1 2 3 4 5

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.

1 2 3 4 5

6. The page(s)' overall appearance is lively and attractive. It invites readers to pause, read and enjoy.

1 2 3 4 5

GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS: Please include any thoughts that could be helpful to the school's newspaper staff and advisers.

SCHOOL: _____

TOTAL POINTS _____

HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM AWARDS

Judging Sheet for BEST PHOTOGRAPHY

Judging in this category will be on a sliding scale as indicated. The higher the number, the higher the rating you have given the paper.

SCORE

1. The photograph makes a statement or has impact.
1 2 3 4 5 _____

2. The photograph is well composed, balanced, appropriately cropped and visually interesting. It is not static, cluttered or hard-to-understand.
1 2 3 4 5 _____

3. Anyone prominently featured in the photograph is identified; the photographer or source is credited. In addition, the outline includes essential information, including what the reader cannot see.
1 2 3 4 5 _____

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.
1 2 3 4 5 _____

5. The photograph illustrates the story it accompanies, or, if stand alone, it illustrates some aspect of school life relevant to its readers. If it depicts a news or sports event, the photograph is not posed but rather accurately reflects the event.
1 2 3 4 5 _____

GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS: Please include any thoughts that could be helpful to the school's newspaper staff and advisors.

SCHOOL: _____

TOTAL POINTS _____

HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM AWARDS

Judging Sheet for BEST ILLUSTRATION

Judging in this category will be on a sliding scale as indicated. The higher the number, the higher the rating you have given the paper.

SCORE

1. The illustration makes a statement on its own. If a caption is used, it is appropriate and descriptive.

1 2 3 4 5

2. The illustration shows originality.

1 2 3 4 5

3. The illustration is well composed, balanced, and visually interesting.

1 2 3 4 5

4. The illustration is cleanly drawn and shows quality of artistry.

1 2 3 4 5

5. The illustration is appropriate to the story it accompanies, or if stand alone, it depicts some aspect of school life relevant to its readers.

1 2 3 4 5

GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS: Please include any thoughts that could be helpful to the school's newspaper staff and advisors.

SCHOOL: _____

TOTAL POINTS _____

HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM AWARDS

Judging Sheet for BEST EDITORIAL CARTOON

Judging in this category will be on a sliding scale as indicated. The higher the number, the higher the rating you have given the paper.

SCORE

1. The editorial cartoon concerns an issue of current interest.

1 2 3 4 5

2. The editorial cartoon makes a statement and expresses a clear opinion.

1 2 3 4 5

3. The cartoon is well composed, balanced, and visually interesting.

1 2 3 4 5

4. The cartoon is cleanly drawn and shows quality of artistry.

1 2 3 4 5

GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS: Please include any thoughts that could be helpful to the school's newspaper staff and advisors.

SCHOOL: _____

TOTAL POINTS _____

HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM AWARDS

Judging Sheet for BEST SINGLE ISSUE

Judging in this category will be on a sliding scale as indicated. The higher the number, the higher the rating you have given the paper.

SCORE

1. The newspaper contains all the essential elements: news, features, sports, art, 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.

1 2 3 4 5 _____

2. Stories maintain a high level of quality throughout the paper. They are interesting, complete and well-written, according to accepted journalistic standards.

1 2 3 4 5 _____

3. Photos and illustrations have technical merit, story-telling content and visual appeal. They are used with good artistic and editorial judgment.

1 2 3 4 5 _____

4. Spelling, punctuation, usage and grammar are correct throughout the paper. Mistakes and typos are at a minimum.

1 2 3 4 5 _____

5. Overall, the newspaper reflects sound news judgment and a focus on the interests and concerns of the students. It informs, entertains, and prompts thought and action.

1 2 3 4 5 _____

6. Headline sizes are appropriate to the importance of the stories and the headline length is suitable to what must be stated. Photos and illustrations are well displayed, appropriately sized and framed with sufficient white space. 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.

1 2 3 4 5 _____

GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS: Please include any thoughts that could be helpful to the school's newspaper staff and advisers.

SCHOOL:

TOTAL POINTS

HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM AWARDS

Judging Sheet for BEST ONLINE VIDEO

Judging in this category will be on a sliding scale as indicated. The higher the number, the higher the rating you have given the paper.

SCORE

1. The video concerns an issue of student interest.

1 2 3 4 5

2. The video uses interviews, standups and/or voiceovers to advance the story.

1 2 3 4 5

3. Visuals include a range of long, medium and closeup shots and the shots are well composed, balanced, and focused.

1 2 3 4 5

4. Audio is clear.

1 2 3 4 5

5. Graphics are used to identify story elements and/or subjects.

1 2 3 4 5

6. The video loads quickly and is viewable through computer, tablet, and mobile device.

1 2 3 4 5

GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS: Please include any thoughts that could be helpful to the school's newspaper staff and advisers.

SCHOOL: _____

TOTAL POINTS _____

HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM AWARDS

Judging Sheet for BEST ONLINE NEWS REPORTING

Judging in this category will be on a sliding scale as indicated. The higher the number, the higher the rating you have given the paper.

SCORE

1. The news story or package breaks online before print version (if any).

1 2 3 4 5

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).

1 2 3 4 5

3. Package provides opportunities for readers to converse about the content.

1 2 3 4 5

4. Story includes links to related and verified information and websites.

1 2 3 4 5

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.

1 2 3 4 5

GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS: Please include any thoughts that could be helpful to the school's newspaper staff and advisers.

SCHOOL: _____

TOTAL POINTS _____

HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM AWARDS

Judging Sheet for BEST ONLINE FEATURE WRITING

Judging in this category will be on a sliding scale as indicated. The higher the number, the higher the rating you have given the paper.

SCORE

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.

1 2 3 4 5

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).

1 2 3 4 5

3. Package provides opportunities for readers to converse about the content.

1 2 3 4 5

4. Story includes links to related and verified information and websites.

1 2 3 4 5

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

1 2 3 4 5

GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS: Please include any thoughts that could be helpful to the school's newspaper staff and advisers.

SCHOOL: _____

TOTAL POINTS _____

HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM AWARDS

Judging Sheet for BEST ONLINE SPORTS REPORTING

Judging in this category will be on a sliding scale as indicated. The higher the number, the higher the rating you have given the paper.

SCORE

1. The sports story or package breaks online before print version.

1 2 3 4 5

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).

1 2 3 4 5

3. Package provides opportunities for readers to converse about the content.

1 2 3 4 5

4. Story includes links to supporting and verified information, websites, rosters, player and coach bios.

1 2 3 4 5

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 the build the piece.

1 2 3 4 5

GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS: Please include any thoughts that could be helpful to the school's newspaper staff and advisers.

SCHOOL: _____

TOTAL POINTS _____

HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM AWARDS

Judging Sheet for BEST ONLINE EDITORIAL

Judging in this category will be on a sliding scale as indicated. The higher the number, the higher the rating you have given the paper.

SCORE

1. The editorial or package breaks online before print version (if any).

1 2 3 4 5

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).

1 2 3 4 5

3. Package provides opportunities for readers to converse about the content.

1 2 3 4 5

4. Editorial includes links to related and verified information.

1 2 3 4 5

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.

1 2 3 4 5

GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS: Please include any thoughts that could be helpful to the school's newspaper staff and advisers.

SCHOOL: _____

TOTAL POINTS _____

HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM AWARDS

Judging Sheet for BEST ONLINE PHOTOGRAPHY

Judging in this category will be on a sliding scale as indicated. The higher the number, the higher the rating you have given the paper.

SCORE

1. The photograph makes a statement or has impact.
1 2 3 4 5 _____

2. The photograph is well composed, balanced, appropriately cropped and visually interesting. It is not static, cluttered or hard-to-understand.
1 2 3 4 5 _____

3. Anyone prominently featured in the photograph is identified; the photographer or source is credited. In addition, the outline includes essential information, including what the reader cannot see.
1 2 3 4 5 _____

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.
1 2 3 4 5 _____

5. The photograph illustrates the story it accompanies, or, if stand alone, it illustrates some aspect of school life relevant to its readers. If it depicts a news or sports event, the photograph is not posed but rather accurately reflects the event.
1 2 3 4 5 _____

GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS: Please include any thoughts that could be helpful to the school's newspaper staff and advisors.

SCHOOL: _____

TOTAL POINTS _____

HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM AWARDS

Judging Sheet for BEST ONLINE ILLUSTRATION

Judging in this category will be on a sliding scale as indicated. The higher the number, the higher the rating you have given the paper.

SCORE

1. The illustration makes a statement on its own. If a caption is used, it is appropriate and descriptive.

1 2 3 4 5

2. The illustration shows originality.

1 2 3 4 5

3. The illustration is well composed, balanced, and visually interesting.

1 2 3 4 5

4. The illustration is cleanly drawn and shows quality of artistry.

1 2 3 4 5

5. The online illustration is appropriate to the story it accompanies, or if stand alone, it depicts some aspect of school life relevant to its readers.

1 2 3 4 5

GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS: Please include any thoughts that could be helpful to the school's newspaper staff and advisors.

SCHOOL: _____

TOTAL POINTS _____

HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM AWARDS

Judging Sheet for BEST ONLINE EDITORIAL CARTOON

Judging in this category will be on a sliding scale as indicated. The higher the number, the higher the rating you have given the paper.

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

GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS: Please include any thoughts that could be helpful to the school's newspaper staff and advisors.

SCHOOL: _____

TOTAL POINTS _____

HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM AWARDS

Judging Sheet for BEST MULTIMEDIA PRESENTATION

Judging in this category will be on a sliding scale as indicated. The higher the number, the higher the rating you have given the paper.

SCORE

1. The presentation includes a mixture of text, links, 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.

1 2 3 4 5

2. The presentation concerns an issue of student interest.

1 2 3 4 5

3. The individual elements (text, photos, video, audio, graphics, etc) strive for the highest technical and journalistic standards.

1 2 3 4 5

GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS: Please include any thoughts that could be helpful to the school's newspaper staff and advisers.

SCHOOL: _____

TOTAL POINTS _____

HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM AWARDS

Judging Sheet for BEST OVERALL WEB Site

Judging in this category will be on a sliding scale as indicated. The higher the number, the higher the rating you have given the paper.

SCORE

- | | | |
|----|---|-------|
| 1. | The website's homepage has an appealing balance of text, display type, photographs and graphics. | _____ |
| | 1 2 3 4 5 | |
| 2. | The website is easy to navigate; using menus or tabs that work and provide content when clicked. | _____ |
| | 1 2 3 4 5 | |
| 3. | Content is written and organized for the Web and provides multimedia approaches and links to additional sites or resources. | _____ |
| | 1 2 3 4 5 | |
| 4. | A link is provided to PDF version of a print newspaper or other student media and the site can be viewed on tablets and mobile devices. | _____ |
| | 1 2 3 4 5 | |
| 5. | The site provides readers with opportunities to comment, contact information for the site/staff and archives of earlier content. | _____ |
| | 1 2 3 4 5 | |

GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS: Please include any thoughts that could be helpful to the school's newspaper staff and advisers.

SCHOOL: _____

TOTAL POINTS _____

HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM AWARDS

Judging Sheet for BEST CONTEST COVER

Judging in this category will be on a sliding scale as indicated. The higher the number, the higher the rating you have given the paper.

SCORE

1. The design incorporates the theme “Making a Change” and includes the text “Making a Change” and “2014 Hawaii High School Journalism Awards”

1 2 3 4 5

2. The design meets the entry format of 5” x 5” (size of CD cover) and can be enlarged for 2’ x 2’ poster.

1 2 3 4 5

3. Illustrations, graphics or photos used in the design support the theme “Making a Change”.

1 2 3 4 5

GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS: Please include any thoughts that could be helpful to the school’s newspaper staff and advise

SCHOOL: _____

TOTAL POINTS _____