

PRESSES THE ISSUE

APRIL 25-26, 2024

ARKANSAS SCHOLASTIC PRESS ASSOCIATION  LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS



LINK THE FUTURE. SHAPING THE STORY.

2024 CONTESTS RULES

ASPA MEMBERSHIPS:

To be considered for these contests you must be registered as a 2023-2024+ ASPA Member no later than March 22, 2024.

You may register online via the ASPA website or by mail. Membership by mail forms can be found online under "Join ASPA."

All material submitted must be original student work. All entries must have been produced during this 2023-2024 school year by a current ASPA student member staff. Only one entry per category per school may be entered except where otherwise stated. Additional entries for the same category and/or school will be disqualified. Entry form must be attached with entries.

INDIVIDUAL DIGITAL CONTESTS:

Arkansas Scholastic Press Association member staffs may enter materials for competition in the areas of broadcast, film/video, literary magazine, print newspaper, digital newspaper and yearbook.

Ratings of superior, excellent and honorable mention will be awarded. Entries will be judged in the following divisions:

Tier 1: Freshman Academy/Junior High & Middle School.

Tier 2: All 1A, 2A, 3A and 4A school's.

Tier 3: All 5A, 6A and 7A school's.

See the individual publication contest details for more information and deadlines. Early entry fee is \$4.00; late entry fee is \$12.00.

GENERAL EXCELLENCE & ALL-ARKANSAS:

LITERARY MAGAZINE & YEARBOOK:

EARLY ENTRIES: Early General Excellence and All-Arkansas were held

August 30, 2023 through October 29, 2023.

LATE ENTRIES: Late General Excellence and All-Arkansas entries were accepted from October 30, 2023 through December 9, 2023. The late entry fee was \$15.00 per entry.

BROADCAST, FILM/VIDEO & NEWSPAPER:

The early deadline for General Excellence and All-Arkansas is March 01, 2024; late entries will be accepted through March 22, 2024 until 11:59 p.m. Central — the same deadline as all other contests.

Only print newspaper entries for General Excellence may be mailed. All others must be submitted digitally.

ALL MEDIA:

All media must submit three (3) original works produced in the 2023-2024 school year to be considered for both General Excellence and All-Arkansas contests, except for literary magazine and yearbook which will submit one (1) completed book. Broadcast, film, video, literary magazine, print newspaper, digital newspaper and yearbook will first be judged for General Excellence, where a superior, excellent or honorable mention rating will be issued.

Publications with a superior rating will then be judged for All-Arkansas. All-Arkansas awards are presented to the best broadcast, film/video programs, literary magazines, print newspapers, digital newspapers and yearbooks in the state — approximately the top 5% of publications.

See the General Excellence and All-Arkansas entry form for entry information. The early entry fee is \$6.00 per entry; late entry fee is \$15.00 per entry.

ASPA OF-THE-YEAR AWARDS:

Member staffs may nominate candidates for each Of-the-Year category. Generally, Of-the-Year, First

Runner Up, and Second Runner Up are awarded for each category. Judges may choose to give no award or omit runners-up if they believe it necessary based on the quality of entries received.

The early entry fee for each of these categories is \$6.00; late entry is \$15.00, except Adviser of the Year and Administrator of the Year. Entry into these two categories are free.

See the individual publication O-T-Y details for more information on each category, entry fees and deadlines.

ENTRY DEADLINES:

All early entries must be uploaded no later than March 01, 2024 by 11:59 p.m. Central. ASPA will accept late contest entries until March 22, 2024 by 11:59 p.m. Central.

Entries uploaded after March 22, 2024 and/or any entry that does not include applicable fees or late fees will be disqualified.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFO:

Awards for all entries will be presented during the 2024 ASPA State Convention on April 25 and 26 in Little Rock, Arkansas. Advisers and students must follow all guidelines for each individual category. Not following the guidelines could result in an entry being disqualified.

Checks for entry fees should be made payable to "Arkansas Scholastic Press Association" and should be enclosed in the entry package or paid on ASPA's website. Unless otherwise allowed, all entries must be uploaded to Reviewr following the instructions on the ASPA website "2024 Contest" page.

QUESTIONS:

If you have any questions, please e-mail Renette McCargo at rmccargo@arkansassscholasticpressassociation.org or Charli Thweatt at media@arkansassscholasticpressassociation.org.

BROADCAST. VIDEO. FILM.

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

To be considered for these contests you must be registered as a 2023-2024+ ASPA Member no later than March 22, 2024.

All material submitted must be original student work. All entries must have been produced during this 2023-2024 school year by a current ASPA student member staff.

Only two entries per category per school may be entered. Additional entries for the same category and/or school will be disqualified. Entry form must be attached in a folder with all entry materials for each separate submission.

DIGITAL SUBMISSIONS:

All digital submissions should be submitted via Reviewr. Each file must be no larger than 20 GB. Do not .zip file uploads. Entries must contain all required documents, students entry form and single video entry for the correct contest category.

ASPA will not accept any single video entered into multiple categories. Each category must contain an original video completely created/edited by the student(s) entering. Any duplications will result in automatic disqualification.

CONTEST FEES & DEADLINES:

Enclose the \$4 early entry fee or \$12 late entry fee for each entry. Make checks payable to "Arkansas Scholastic Press Association" or pay with a credit card online in the "ASPA Store" on the ASPA website.

All early entries must be uploaded no later than March 01, 2024 by 11:59 p.m. Central. ASPA will accept late contest entries until March 22, 2024 by 11:59 p.m. Central. Entries uploaded after March 22, 2024 and/or any entry that does not include applicable fees or late fees will be disqualified and returned to the sender.

Ratings of superior, excellent or

honorable mention may be awarded. Contest winners will be announced during the 2024 ASPA State Convention.

QUESTIONS:

If you have any questions, please e-mail Renette McCargo at rmccargo@arkansasscholasticpressassociation.org or Charli Thweatt at media@arkansasscholasticpressassociation.org.

Upload entries using Reviewr following the links provided on Arkansas Scholastic Press Association's website under 2024 Contests.

CATEGORIES:

BROADCAST

B1—Broadcast Daily News Program/Announcements: One continuous segment of a daily student-produced program.

B2—Broadcast Weekly Show: Send one show as it originally aired—no compilation shows— not less than 10 minutes and not longer than 30 minutes.

B3—Broadcast Monthly Magazine Show: Send one show as it originally aired—no compilation shows— not less than 10 minutes and not longer than 30 minutes.

B4—Broadcast News Package: One segment. 2:30 minute maximum.

B5—Broadcast Human Interest or Serious Feature Package: This is a non-fiction category. 2:30 minute maximum.

B6—Broadcast Sports Package: One segment about a sports-related topic. May be a news or feature story.

B7—Broadcast Humorous Feature Package: Any parody, satire, original scene, etc. designed to entertain or evoke laughter.

B8—Broadcast Show Opening: Student produced opening for any show (45 seconds maximum).

FILM

F1—Film Visual Effects: Less than one minute including visual effects from a film.

F2—Screenplay: 15 pages or fewer.

F3—Film Original Score/Music: Less than one minute.

F4—Film Art Direction/Set Design: Less than 30 seconds.

F5—Film Costume Design: Less than 30 seconds.

F6—Film Sound Design: Less than one minute.

F7—Film Editing: Less than one minute.

F8—Short Narrative Film: Less than five minutes.

F9—Narrative Film: Minimum of five minutes maximum of 30 minutes.

F10—Experimental Film: Less than five minutes.

F11—Documentary: Less than 30 minutes.

VIDEO PRODUCTION

V1—Commercial: 30 or 60 seconds.

V2—Public Service Announcement (PSA): A 30- or 60-second message to educate, inform or persuade a target audience.

V3—Animation/Stop Motion: Less than five minutes.

V4—Music Video: Must be copyright free music.

V5—Demo Reel: Less than 3 minutes about your broadcast and/or film program. Must be 100% student work.

OF-THE-YEAR.

Note: Different video/film/broadcast reels are required for each O-T-Y contest category. For example, one video/film/broadcast reel cannot be entered in three different O-T-Y categories or individual contests. Duplications may result in disqualification. All entries must be uploaded and named according to the conventions set forth in the contest booklet.

BROADCAST JOURNALIST O-T-Y REQUIREMENTS:

1. A one page statement from the nominee in which he or she details what was learned while serving on the staff.
2. Five original broadcast segments filmed and/or edited by only the nominee with entry form.
3. In an optional statement of not more than one page, explain why you, as the adviser, consider this student to be an outstanding broadcast journalist. Give examples of their value to staff, observance of deadlines, leadership skills, etc. Explain the exact duties and responsibilities of this student.
4. Additional information that may assist the judges may be submitted.

BROADCAST ON-AIR TALENT O-T-Y REQUIREMENTS:

1. A one page statement from the nominee in which he or she details what was learned while serving on the staff.
2. Five original broadcast segments demonstrating on-air ability with entry form.
3. In an optional statement of not more than one page, explain why you, as the adviser, consider this student to be an outstanding broadcast on-air talent. Give examples of their value to staff, observance of deadlines, leadership skills, etc. Explain the exact duties and responsibilities of this student.
4. Additional information that may assist the judges may be submitted.

BROADCAST PRODUCER O-T-Y REQUIREMENTS:

1. A one page statement from the nominee in which he or she details what was learned while serving on the staff.
2. Five original broadcast segments filmed and/or edited by only the nominee with entry form.
3. In an optional statement of not more than one page, explain why you, as the adviser, consider this student to be an outstanding broadcast producer. Give examples of their value to staff, observance of deadlines, leadership skills, etc. Explain the exact duties and responsibilities of this student.
4. Additional information that may assist the judges may be submitted.

BROADCAST VIDEO EDITOR O-T-Y REQUIREMENTS:

1. A one page statement from the nominee in which he or she details what was learned while serving on the staff.
2. Five original broadcast segments filmed and/or edited by only the nominee with entry form.
3. In an optional statement of not more than one page, explain why you, as the adviser, consider this student to be an outstanding broadcast video editor. Give examples of their value to staff, observance of deadlines, leadership skills, etc. Explain the exact duties and responsibilities of this student.
4. Additional information that may assist the judges may be submitted.

BROADCAST SPORTS JOURNALIST O-T-Y REQUIREMENTS: (NEW)

1. A one page statement from the nominee in which he or she details what was learned while serving on the staff.
2. Five original sports segments the nominee's abilities as a sports journalist with entry form.
3. In an optional statement of not more than one page, explain why you, as the adviser, consider this student to be an outstanding broadcast video editor. Give examples of their value to staff, observance of deadlines, leadership skills, etc. Explain the exact duties and responsibilities of this student.
4. Additional information that may assist the judges may be submitted.

FILMMAKER O-T-Y REQUIREMENTS:

1. One original demo reel that encompasses all aspects of film by the nominee uploaded online with entry form included.
2. In an optional statement of not more than one page, explain why you, as the adviser, consider this student to be an outstanding filmmaker. Give examples of their value to staff, observance of deadlines, leadership skills, etc. Explain the exact duties and responsibilities of this student.
3. Additional information that may assist the judges may be submitted.

OF-THE-YEAR CONT.

FILM CINEMATOGRAPHER O-T-Y REQUIREMENTS:

1. A one page statement from the nominee in which he or she details what was learned while serving on the staff.
2. A demo reel featuring the nominee's talent with entry form.
3. In an optional statement of not more than one page, explain why you, as the adviser, consider this student to be an outstanding film cinematographer. Give examples of their value to staff, observance of deadlines, leadership skills, etc. Explain the exact duties and responsibilities of this student.
4. Additional information that may assist the judges may be submitted.

FILM DIRECTOR O-T-Y REQUIREMENTS:

1. A one page statement from the nominee in which he or she details what was learned while serving on the staff.
2. A demo reel featuring the nominee's talent with entry form.
3. In an optional statement of not more than one page, explain why you, as the adviser, consider this student to be an outstanding film director. Give examples of their value to staff, observance of deadlines, leadership skills, etc. Explain the exact duties and responsibilities of this student.
4. Additional information that may assist the judges may be submitted.

FILM EDITOR O-T-Y REQUIREMENTS:

1. A one page statement from the nominee in which he or she details what was learned while serving on the staff.
2. A demo reel featuring the nominee's talent on a flash drive or uploaded online with entry form included.
3. In an optional statement of not more than one page, explain why you, as the adviser, consider this student to be an outstanding film editor. Give examples of their value to staff, observance of deadlines, leadership skills, etc. Explain the exact duties and responsibilities of this student.
4. Additional information that may assist the judges may be submitted.

FILM PRODUCER O-T-Y REQUIREMENTS:

1. A one page statement from the nominee in which he or she details what was learned while serving on the staff.
2. A demo reel featuring the nominees talent with entry form.
3. In an optional statement of not more than one page, explain why you, as the adviser, consider this student to be an outstanding film producer. Give examples of their value to staff, observance of deadlines, leadership skills, etc. Explain the exact duties and responsibilities of this student.
4. Additional information that may assist the judges may be submitted.

FILM SCRIPT WRITER O-T-Y REQUIREMENTS:

1. A one page statement from the nominee in which he or she details what was learned while serving on the staff.
2. Two scripts written by the nominee; one short script (five or fewer pages) and one long script (six or more pages) with entry form.
3. In an optional statement of not more than one page, explain why you, as the adviser, consider this student to be an outstanding film script writer. Give examples of their value to staff, observance of deadlines, leadership skills, etc. Explain the exact duties and responsibilities of this student.
4. Additional information that may assist the judges may be submitted.

NOTE: Due to the number of O-T-Y submissions awards will be based on the schools' AAA football classifications.



Photographer: Hope Littrell of Bentonville West High School, ranked "Superior" and Best of ASPA winner for category M8 — Photography (2023).

Photo by [Mick De Paola](#) on Unsplash

ASPA

***INK THE FUTURE.
SHAPE THE
STORY. CHAMPION
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YOUR VOICE IMPACT.***



LITERARY MAGAZINE

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

To be considered for these contests you must be registered as a 2023-2024+ ASPA Member no later than March 22, 2024.

You may register online via the ASPA website or by mail. Membership by mail forms can be found online under "Join ASPA."

All material submitted must be original student work. All entries must have been produced during the 2022-2023 and/or 2023-2024 school year by a current ASPA student staff member.

Only one entry per category per school may be entered unless otherwise stated in the specific contest category. Additional entries for the same category and/or school will be disqualified.

You may send entries from this year's literary magazine and/or from last year's. **However, you cannot use the same entry two years in a row.** If you entered works for an ASPA contest last year, you may not enter it again this year.

DIGITAL SUBMISSIONS:

All digital submissions should be submitted via Reviewr. Each file must be no larger than 20 GB. Do not .zip file uploads. Entries must contain all required documents, students entry form and single video entry for the correct contest category.

Online submissions must be in a PDF format with the entry form as the first page followed by all entry materials.

CONTEST FEES & DEADLINES:

Enclose the \$4 entry fee or \$12 late entry fee for each entry. Make checks payable to "Arkansas Scholastic Press Association" or pay with a credit card online in the "ASPA Store" on the ASPA website.

All early entries must be uploaded no

later than March 01, 2024 by 11:59 p.m. Central. ASPA will accept late contest entries until March 22, 2024 by 11:59 p.m. Central.

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Ratings of superior, excellent or honorable mention may be awarded. Contest winners will be announced during the 2024 ASPA State Convention on April 25th and 26th in Little Rock, Arkansas.

QUESTIONS:

If you have any questions, please e-mail Renette McCargo at rmccargo@arkansascholasticpressassociation.org or Charli Thweatt at media@arkansascholasticpressassociation.org.

Upload entries using Reviewr following the links provided on Arkansas Scholastic Press Association's website under 2024 Contests.

CATEGORIES:

M1—Poetry: 1 to 15 lines. A staff may submit TWO entries. Pay two entry fees if two poems are submitted.

M2—Longer Poem: 16 or more lines. A staff may submit TWO entries. Pay two entry fees if two poems are submitted.

M3—Essay: A staff may submit TWO entries. Pay two entry fees if two poems are submitted.

M4—Short Story: A staff may submit TWO entries. Pay two entry fees if two poems are submitted.

M5—Feature Article: Story may be on any subject: human interest, profile, etc. Only ONE entry is permitted.

M6—Design: Submit one single page or a double-page spread. Only ONE entry is

permitted.

M7—Thematic Development: Submit one copy of the magazine. Only ONE entry is permitted.

M8—Photography: Photo should tell a story without a lot of supporting text. Only ONE entry is permitted. Must include caption.

M9—Art or Illustration: Any medium. Only ONE entry is permitted.

M10—Cover Design: Only ONE entry is permitted.



Artist: Jordan Rosso of Bentonville West High School, rated "Superior" and Best of ASPA for category M9—Art or Illustration (2023).

OF-THE-YEAR.

LITERARY MAGAZINE ARTIST O-T-Y REQUIREMENTS: (NEW)

1. A statement from the nominee of not more than one page in which he or she discusses what has been learned while serving on the staff.
2. Five original design elements completed during the 2022-2023 or 2023-2024 school year by the student for your school publications. Entries may include editorial cartoons, comic strips, graphic art, clip-art, and other published artwork. Designs must not contain elements designed by another student.
3. The nominee's name, school, and "Literary Magazine Artist of the Year Entry" must be included on the entry.
4. In an optional statement of not more than one page, explain why you, as the adviser, consider this student to be an outstanding artist. Give examples of their value to staff, observance of deadlines, leadership skills, etc. Explain the exact duties and responsibilities of this student.
5. Additional information that may assist the judges may be submitted.

LITERARY MAGAZINE DESIGNER O-T-Y REQUIREMENTS:

1. A statement from the nominee of not more than one page in which he or she discusses what has been learned while serving on the staff.
2. Five original design elements completed during the 2022-2023 or 2023-2024 school year by the student for your school publications. Entries may include complete spreads, pages, advertisements, informational graphics, sidebars, etc. If any designs contain elements designed by another student, please make a note on the entry.
3. The nominee's name, school, and "Literary Magazine Designer of the Year Entry" must be included on the entry.
4. In an optional statement of not more than one page, explain why you, as the adviser, consider this student to be an outstanding designer. Give examples of their value to staff, observance of deadlines, leadership skills, etc. Explain the exact duties and responsibilities of this student.
5. Additional information that may assist the judges may be submitted.

LITERARY MAGAZINE EDITOR O-T-Y REQUIREMENTS:

1. A statement from the nominee of not more than one page in which he or she discusses what has been learned while serving on the staff.
2. Enclose three samples of the student's writing from the 2022-2023 or 2023-2024 school year.
3. Enclose design samples created by the student in the 2022-2023 or 2023-2024 school year.
4. **Enclose a complete issue of the Literary Magazine.**
5. In an optional statement of not more than one page, explain why you, as adviser, consider this student to be an outstanding editor. Give examples of value to staff, observance of deadlines, leadership skills, etc.
6. The nominee's name, school, and "Literary Magazine Editor of the Year Entry" must be included with the entry.
7. Additional information that may assist the judges may be submitted.

LITERARY MAGAZINE WRITER O-T-Y REQUIREMENTS:

1. A statement from the nominee of not more than one page in which he or she discusses what has been learned while serving on the staff.
2. Three original writing samples written and/or published in the 2022-2023 or 2023-2024 school year.
3. The nominee's name, school, and "Literary Magazine Writer of the Year Entry" must be included on the entry.
4. In an optional statement of not more than one page, explain why you, as the adviser, consider this student to be an outstanding writer. Give examples of their value to staff, observance of deadlines, leadership skills, etc. Explain the exact duties and responsibilities of this student.
5. Additional information that may assist the judges may be submitted.

NOTE: Due to the number of O-T-Y submissions awards will be based on the schools' AAA football classifications.

DIGITAL NEWSPAPER

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

To be considered for these contests you must be registered as a 2023-2024+ ASPA Member no later than March 22, 2024.

All material submitted must be original student work. All entries must have been produced during this 2023-2024 school year by a current ASPA student member staff.

Only one entry per category per school may be entered. Additional entries for the same category and/or school will be disqualified. For some contests, Reviewr will allow for a link to an article page. The article page must still be public through June 30, 2024.

CONTEST FEES & DEADLINES:

Enclose the \$4 early entry fee or \$12 late entry fee for each entry. Make checks payable to "Arkansas Scholastic Press Association" or pay with a credit card online in the "ASPA Store" on the ASPA website.

All early entries must be uploaded no later than March 01, 2024 by 11:59 p.m. Central. ASPA will accept late contest entries until March 22, 2024 by 11:59 p.m. Central. Entries uploaded after March 22, 2024 and/or any entry that does not include applicable fees or late fees will be disqualified and returned to the sender.

Ratings of superior, excellent or honorable mention may be awarded. Contest winners will be announced during the 2024 ASPA State Convention.

QUESTIONS:

If you have any questions, please e-mail Renette McCargo at rmccargo@arkansasscholasticpressassociation.org or Charli Thweatt at media@arkansasscholasticpressassociation.org.

Upload entries using Reviewr following the links provided on Arkansas Scholastic Press Association's website under 2024 Contests.

CATEGORIES:

D1—News Story.

D2—Feature Story.

D3—Sports Story.

D4—Editorial.

D5—Personality Profile: Must be based on an interview and include quotes. Cannot be the same entry as D2.

D6—Column: A serious or humorous article expressing an opinion. Do not submit a sports column for this category.

D7—Sports Column.

D8—Review: A critical commentary of a movie, television show, book, musical recording, play, etc.

D9—Service to School and Community: Coverage of one topic that exhibits leadership by informing and impacting the readers. May be a single story or a series.

D10—News Photograph. **Must include caption.**

D11—Feature Photograph. **Must include caption.**

D12—Sports Photograph. **Must include caption.**

D13—Portrait or Environmental: Must include the full story that accompanies the portrait or environmental photo.

D14—Photo Slideshow or Gallery: A group of three or more photos designed to tell a story. Submit the entire page or spread.

D15—Advertisement: Must be entirely designed by student.

D16—Editorial Cartoon.

D17—Informational Graphic.

D18—Interactive Graphic: Reader must be able to interact with the graphic: polls, comment section, etc.

D19—Home Page Design.

D20—Multimedia Feature Package: A feature story accompanied by other visual or written elements such as photos, infographics, a link to video footage, etc.

D21—Multimedia News Package: A news story accompanied by other visual or written elements such as photos, infographics, a link to video footage, etc.

D22—Multimedia Sports Package: A sports story accompanied by other visual or written elements such as photos, infographics, a link to video footage, etc.



Photographer: Kyah Kaufmann of Little Rock Central High School, ranked "Superior" in category D10—News Photograph (2023).

PRINT NEWSPAPER

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CATEGORIES:

N1—News Story.

N2—Feature Story.

N3—Sports Story.

N4—Editorial.

N5—Personality Profile: Must be based on an interview and include quotes. Cannot be the same entry as N2.

N6—Column: A serious or humorous article expressing an opinion. Do not submit a sports column for this category.

N7—Sports Column.

N8—Review: A critical commentary of a movie, television show, book, musical recording, play, etc.

N9—Service to School and Community: Coverage of one topic that exhibits leadership by informing and impacting the readers. May be a single story or a series.

N10—News Photograph. **Must include caption.**

N11—Feature Photograph. **Must include caption.**

N12—Sports Photograph. **Must include caption.**

N13—Portrait or Environmental: Must include the full story that accompanies the portrait or environmental photo.

N14—Photo Essay: A group of three or more photos designed to tell a story. Submit the entire page or spread.

N15—Editorial Cartoon.

N16—Advertisement: Must be entirely designed by student.

N17—Informational Graphic.

N18—Feature Page Design.

N19—Front Page Design.

N20—Centerspread Design.

N21—Opinion Page Design.

N22—Sports Page Design.



Photographer: Ross Holloway of Bryant High School, ranked "Superior" and Best of ASPA winner for category D13—Portrait or Environmental (2023).



Photographer: Josh McNeil of Little Rock Central High School, ranked "Superior" and Best of ASPA winner for category D14—Photo Slideshow or Gallery (2023).

NEWSPAPER OF-THE-YEAR.

NEWSPAPER DESIGNER O-T-Y REQUIREMENTS: (For Both Print & Digital Newspaper Publications).

1. A statement from the nominee of not more than one page in which he or she discusses what has been learned while serving on the staff.
2. Five original design elements completed during the 2023-2024 school year by the student for your school publications. Entries may include complete spreads, pages, advertisements, informational graphics, sidebars, etc. If any designs contain elements designed by another student, please make a note on the entry.
3. The nominee's name, school and "Newspaper Designer of the Year Entry" must be included on the entry.
4. In an optional statement of not more than one page, explain why you, as the adviser, consider this student to be an outstanding designer. Give examples of their value to staff, observance of deadlines, leadership skills, etc. Explain the exact duties and responsibilities of this student.
5. Additional information that may assist the judges may be submitted.

NEWSPAPER EDITOR O-T-Y REQUIREMENTS: (For Both Print & Digital Newspaper Publications).

1. A statement from the nominee of not more than one page in which he or she discusses what has been learned while serving on the staff.
2. Three samples of the student's writing from the 2023-2024 school year.
3. Design samples created by the student in the 2023-2024 school year.
4. Three complete issue of the newspaper. (Print Newspaper Only. Digital Newspaper include a link to the three works being submitted).
5. In an optional statement of not more than one page, explain why you, as adviser, consider this student to be an outstanding editor. Give examples of value to staff, observance of deadlines, leadership skills, etc.
6. The nominee's name, school, and "Newspaper Editor of the Year Entry" must be included with the entry.
7. Additional information that may assist the judges may be submitted.

NEWSPAPER WRITER O-T-Y REQUIREMENTS: (For Both Print & Digital Newspaper Publications).

1. A statement from the nominee of not more than one page in which he or she discusses what has been learned while serving on the staff.
2. Three original writing samples written and/or published in the 2023-2024 school year.
3. The nominee's name, school, and "Newspaper Writer of the Year Entry" must be included on the entry.
4. In an optional statement of not more than one page, explain why you, as the adviser, consider this student to be an outstanding writer. Give examples of their value to staff, observance of deadlines, leadership skills, etc. Explain the exact duties and responsibilities of this student.
5. Additional information that may assist the judges may be submitted.

NOTE: Due to the number of O-T-Y submissions awards will be based on the schools' AAA football classifications.



INSPIRATION COMES FROM THE MOST
UNEXPECTED PLACES

YEARBOOK

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

To be considered for these contests you must be registered as a 2023-2024+ ASPA Member no later than March 22, 2024.

All material submitted must be original student work. All entries must have been produced during this 2023-2024 school year by a current ASPA student member staff.

Only one entry per category per school may be entered except where otherwise stated. Additional entries for the same category and/or school will be disqualified. Entry form must be attached to the front of all entry materials.

Digital submissions must be in a PDF format.

CONTEST FEES & DEADLINES:

Enclose the \$4 early entry fee or \$12 late entry fee for each entry. Make checks payable to "Arkansas Scholastic Press Association" or pay with a credit card online in the "ASPA Store" on the ASPA website.

All early entries must be uploaded no later than March 01, 2024 by 11:59 p.m. Central. ASPA will accept late contest entries until March 22, 2024 by 11:59 p.m. Central.

Entries uploaded after March 22, 2024 and/or any entry that does not include applicable fees or late fees will be disqualified and returned to the sender.

Ratings of superior, excellent or honorable mention may be awarded. Contest winners will be announced during the 2024 ASPA State Convention on April 25th and 26th in Little Rock, Arkansas.

QUESTIONS:

If you have any questions, please e-mail Renette McCargo at rmccargo@arkansascholasticpressassociation.org or Charli Thweatt at media@arkansascholasticpressassociation.org.

Upload entries using Review following the links provided on Arkansas Scholastic Press Association's website under "2024 Contests."

CATEGORIES:

Y1 — Student Life Copy.

Y2 — Academic Copy.

Y3 — People/ Portrait Copy.

Y4 — Groups/Clubs Copy.

Y5 — Sports Copy.

Y6 — Special Coverage: Coverage produced for any section that is not represented in a traditional story format (Who's Who, entertainment pages, alternative feature coverage and design, breakers, etc.) This does not include theme pages (title page, opening, closing, dividers, end-sheets, etc.).

Y7 — Student Life Layout.

Y8 — Academic Layout.

Y9 — People/Portrait Layout.

Y10 — Groups/Clubs Layout.

Y11 — Sports Layout.

Y12 — Advertising Layout.

Y13 — Index Layout.

Y14 — Student Life Photograph: **Must include caption.**

Y15 — Academic Photograph: **Must include caption.**

Y16 — Club Photograph: **Must include caption.**

Y17 — Sports Photograph: **Must include caption.**

Y18 — Theme Photograph: Must appear on a theme page. **Must include caption.**

Y19 — Portrait or Environmental: **Must include the full story** that accompanies the portrait or environmental photo.

Y20 — Environmental Portrait Photograph: A portrait that's executed in the subject's living, working or playing environment and illuminates his or her life and surroundings. **Must include caption.**

Y21 — Cover Design: Cover designed by a student, cannot be a stock, template or professional design.

Y22 — Theme Development: Include layouts and copy for the following:

- »Cover
- »End-sheets (if printed)
- »Opening Section
- »One Division Spread

NOTE: ALL YEARBOOK LAYOUTS MUST BE ORIGINAL STUDENT DESIGNS. YEARBOOK SPREADS THAT ARE PRE-DESIGNED BY A YEARBOOK COMPANY AND/OR TEMPLATES SHOULD NOT BE ENTERED AND MAY BE DISQUALIFIED.

OF-THE-YEAR.

BUSINESS MANAGER O-T-Y REQUIREMENTS:

1. A statement from the nominee of not more than one page in which he or she discusses what has been learned while serving on the staff.
2. The nominee's name, school, and "Business Manager of the Year Entry" must be included on the entry.
3. In an optional statement of not more than one page, explain why you, as the adviser, consider this student to be an outstanding business manager. Give examples of their value to staff, observance of deadlines, leadership skills, etc. Explain the exact duties and responsibilities of this student.
4. Additional information that may assist the judges may be submitted.

PHOTOJOURNALIST O-T-Y REQUIREMENTS:

1. A statement from the nominee of not more than one page in which he or she discusses what has been learned while serving on the staff.
2. Five original black and white and/or color photographs from the 2023-2024 school year. Include at least one sports photo and at least one news photo **with captions**.
3. The nominee's name, school, and "Photojournalist of the Year Entry" must be included on the entry.
4. In an optional statement of not more than one page, explain why you, as the adviser, consider this student to be an outstanding photojournalist. Give examples of their value to staff, observance of deadlines, leadership skills, etc.
5. Additional information that may assist the judges may be submitted.

YEARBOOK DESIGNER O-T-Y REQUIREMENTS:

1. A statement from the nominee of not more than one page in which he or she discusses what has been learned while serving on the staff.
2. Five original design elements completed during the 2023-2024 school year by the student for your school publications. Entries may include complete spreads, pages, advertisements, informational graphics, sidebars, etc. If any designs contain elements designed by another student, please make a note on the entry.
3. The nominee's name, school, and "Yearbook Designer of the Year Entry" must be included on the entry.
4. In an optional statement of not more than one page, explain why you, as the adviser, consider this student to be an outstanding designer. Give examples of their value to staff, observance of deadlines, leadership skills, etc.
5. Additional information that may assist the judges may be submitted.

YEARBOOK EDITOR O-T-Y REQUIREMENTS:

1. A statement from the nominee of not more than one page in which he or she discusses what has been learned while serving on the staff.
2. Three samples of the student's writing from the 2023-2024 school year.
3. Three design samples created by the student in the 2023-2024 school year.
4. In an optional statement of not more than one page, explain why you, as an adviser, consider this student to be an outstanding editor. Give examples of value to staff, observance of deadlines, leadership skills, etc.
5. The nominee's name, school, and "Yearbook Editor of the Year Entry" must be included with the entry.
6. Additional information that may assist the judges may be submitted.

YEARBOOK WRITER O-T-Y REQUIREMENTS:

1. A statement from the nominee of not more than one page in which he or she discusses what has been learned while serving on the staff.
2. Three original writing samples that were written and/or published in the 2023-2024 school year.
3. The nominee's name, school, and "Yearbook Writer of the Year Entry" must be included on the entry.
4. In an optional statement of not more than one page, explain why you, as the adviser, consider this student to be an outstanding writer. Give examples of their value to staff, observance of deadlines, leadership skills, etc.
5. Additional information that may assist the judges may be submitted.

NOTE: Due to the number of O-T-Y submissions awards will be based on the schools' AAA football classifications.

ADVISER & ADMINISTRATORS

ADVISER O-T-Y REQUIREMENTS:

1. Student or other person making the nomination must include a statement of not more than one page in which he or she discusses why this adviser should be named Adviser of the Year.
2. The nominee's name, school, and "Adviser of the Year Entry" must be included on the entry.
3. Additional information that may assist the judges may be submitted.

ADMINISTRATOR O-T-Y REQUIREMENTS:

1. Student or other person making the nomination must include a statement of not more than one page in which he or she discusses why this administrator should be named Administrator of the Year.
2. The nominee's name, school, and "Administrator of the Year Entry" must be included on the entry.
3. Additional information that may assist the judges may be submitted.

NOTE: Due to the number of O-T-Y submissions awards will be based on the schools' AAA football classifications.



Photographer: Jacelyn Butler of Conway High School, ranked "Excellent" in category D10—News Photograph (2023).

ARKANSAS JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

THE BASICS

Who

Any high school journalism student, whose adviser is a member of the Journalism Education Association, is eligible to apply.

What

JOY celebrates the work of one high school student per state. State winners are then allowed to compete for the title of national JOY.

When

The Arkansas deadline is February 27. Arkansas's winner will be notified to submit their national portfolio.

Why

Your hard work in high school journalism deserves recognition. You deserve to be recognized for the long hours, the crazy deadlines and the camera that was attached to your side throughout high school.

How

JOY entrants will create a website outlining their work in 11 categories. Once complete, students will submit their website at <https://forms.gle/A2p3cRVPX692hpuc7>

THE PRIZES

\$3,000

The national JOY will win a \$3,000 scholarship.

\$850

Up to 8 runners-up will each win a \$850 scholarship.

JUDGED CATEGORIES

Personal Narrative

Write a self-reflective essay where you'll explain your growth as a journalist. Special attention should be placed on how your scholastic media experience has shaped your current success and future goals as well as showcasing your "voice" as a writer. Finally, this is also a place to outline any journalistic obstacles you've faced and how you solved them.

Organization and Documentation

Judges will look for a portfolio that is organized and easy to navigate. You should include concise reflections that clearly explain why you included each artifact. Judges will also be looking for recommendation letters (including one from your media adviser) that directly address your accomplishments in scholastic media. Finally, you need to include a professional resume that highlights your scholastic media experiences.

Reporting and Writing

Judges are looking for pieces that exemplify excellence. What's excellence? You should focus on work that was meaningful, impactful, included multiple reliable sources and took a while to complete. We're looking for those pieces you were especially proud to publish after working really hard on it. The larger a variety of work you include (news, feature, sports, opinion, etc) the better.

Editing, Leadership and Team Building

We want to see examples that demonstrate your ability to lead...even if you're not an "official editor" on staff. Artifacts could include work you've edited (that shows your feedback) for other staff members, although we're looking less for "add a comma here" and more for commentary that helps the writer grow. You could also include "how tos" or style guides you created for your peers, or your own previous work where you reflect on what you would do differently.

Web and Social Media

You should aim to show examples where you used social media for telling timely, engaging stories. You also should strive to show how you used the specific social media platform's strengths to tell the story in the best way possible (for example, featuring photo galleries on Instagram but telling the same story via short interviews on Snapchat).

Design

Highlight your understanding of the elements of design (contrast, dominance, alignment, etc). Show off your originality and all of the cool things you designed over the years. The best portfolios will show excellent design work beyond just print (for example: websites, social media posts, videos, etc).

Broadcast Journalism

Show your video packages, anchoring, commentaries, documentaries and/or event coverage. Examples should show your ability to edit text, audio, video, graphics, and any other elements that tell the story. You are welcome to include some PSAs, commercials and/or film, but the focus should be on journalistic work.

Photojournalism

Show your best photographs that demonstrate good exposure, composition and color balance. Make sure you're featuring storytelling moments and include captions that give all the essential facts and context.

Laws, Ethics and News Literacy

Through artifacts and reflection, show that you understand the legal and ethical aspects of good journalism and the importance of both you and your staff excelling in those areas. You should also show any ways that you've worked to improve news literacy on your campus or in your community.

Marketing and Audience Engagement

Explain your branding, marketing, sales, fund-raising, distribution and/or social media strategy. Show your knowledge of different ways to fund your publication and the ways you check to see how well you are reaching your audience.

Commitment to Diversity

Show evidence of your commitment to telling stories and engaging with all stakeholders in your school...especially the underrepresented. This commitment can be told via the stories you tell, the sources you use and/or practices you engage in to create a diverse staff. Diversity will look different at every school as the student populations of every school are different, but you every staff should search for ways to diversify their publication.

ALL-STATE JOURNALISM

For too long, journalism students haven't gotten the credit they deserve. Journalism students across the state put in the work and the hours to produce amazing publications that help to tell the story of their school. We want to honor that work.

JEA is proud to begin the search for this year's Arkansas Journalist of the Year and All-State Journalism team. Membership for the All-State Journalism team will be selected from the top 10-20% of JOY applicants.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Do I really need to have evidence of all 8 categories?

A: Absolutely not. Many winners haven't had entries for all 8 categories. The more areas you have quality content for the higher your score, but you can still win without all 8 categories.

Q: Where can I find more information?

A: You can always check out the JOY portion of the JEA website at jea.org/wp/home/awards-honors/journalist-of-the-year/. You can also email journalismteach@gmail.com.

Q: What's JEA?

A: The Journalism Education Association supports free and responsible scholastic journalism. We host curriculum, an online listserv, a variety of scholastic journalism resources, co-host two national journalism conferences a year and host a summer advisers' academy.

Q: What if my adviser isn't a member of JEA?

A: Talk to them about the benefits of joining. JEA is the largest group advocating for scholastic journalism on the national level, the resources are phenomenal, it provides a national professional learning community for teachers that are typically the only ones in their school teaching this content, AND their membership allows you to compete.

Q: Is there scholarship money for winning the Arkansas JOY?

A: Winning at the state level is required before you can compete for the national JOY. Unfortunately, there is no monetary award at the state level, but it is the first step in winning the title of national JOY and \$3,000.

Q: Do you have to be a senior to enter?

A: Yes. This contest is meant to showcase your best work from your time in journalism. That means you need to be able to pull content from as many years as possible to compete with the best chance of winning.

Q: Do you have to be an editor to have a chance to win?

A: No! Some of the best staff leaders I've ever had didn't have an official title. If you try to help your peers do a better job, you're a leader no matter what your title is.

Q: I don't know how to create a webpage, what do I do?

A: You are welcome to create your webpage using whatever platform you choose, but JEA has created a tutorial for doing so with wordpress. You can find it at <http://jea.org/wp/home/awards-honors/journalist-of-the-year/setting-up-a-wordpress-online-portfolio/> From my personal experience, a lot of my own students have found WIX far easier to use.

Q: Are there example portfolios I can see?

A: You are welcome to browse previous winners, with one warning. This year the rubric was simplified and a new category was added, so their work won't match current expectations exactly. They're still a great place to start though. You can find the 2018 National JOY portfolio here: <https://christinefortjtoday.wordpress.com/> You can find the 2017 National JOY portfolio here: <https://meganbobrowsky.wordpress.com/> You can find the 2016 National JOY portfolio here: <https://kellenbrowning.wordpress.com/>

Q: Can I see the rubric?

A: Definitely! You can find the national and state rubric here: <http://jea.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/JEA-JOY-Rubric-rev-fall-2020.pdf>

ASPA CONTEST-FEES WORKSHEET

DIRECTIONS: Use this worksheet to total the number of entries being entered and the correct entry fee amounts.

Advisers can submit this worksheet to ASPA for an invoice request by emailing a completed copy to media@arkansascholasticpressassociation.org.

Digital contest categories allowing two entries per school are listed twice. List the total number for each Of-the-Year category, then multiply by its correct entry fee for payment total. Entries submitted after the late deadline will not be accepted. To pay online visit, www.arkansascholasticpressassociation.org or submit a check for the grand total, made payable to: **Arkansas Scholastic Press Association**.

Early Deadline: March 01, 2024 | Late Deadline: March 22, 2024

EARLY		LATE	EARLY		LATE	EARLY		LATE	
CODE:	\$4	\$12	CODE:	\$4	\$12	CODE:	\$4	\$12	
B1	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	D1	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
B1	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	D2	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
B2	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	D3	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
B2	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	D4	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
B3	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	D5	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
B3	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	D6	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
B4	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	D7	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
B4	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	D8	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
B5	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	D9	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
B5	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	D10	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
B6	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	D11	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
B6	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	D12	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
B7	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	D13	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
B7	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	D14	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
B8	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	D15	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
B8	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	D16	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
					D17	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
					D18	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
F1	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	D19	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
F1	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	D20	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
F2	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	D21	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
F2	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	D22	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
F3	\$4	[]	\$12	[]					
F3	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	N1	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
F4	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	N2	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
F4	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	N3	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
F5	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	N4	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
F5	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	N5	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
F6	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	N6	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
F6	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	N7	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
F7	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	N8	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
F7	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	N9	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
F8	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	N10	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
F8	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	N11	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
F9	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	N12	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
F9	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	N13	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
F10	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	N14	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
F10	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	N15	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
F11	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	N16	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
F11	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	N17	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
					N18	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
V1	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	N19	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
V1	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	N20	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
V2	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	N21	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
V2	\$4	[]	\$12	[]	N22	\$4	[]	\$12	[]
V3	\$4	[]	\$12	[]					
V3	\$4	[]	\$12	[]					
V4	\$4	[]	\$12	[]					
V4	\$4	[]	\$12	[]					
V5	\$4	[]	\$12	[]					
V5	\$4	[]	\$12	[]					

MAIL-INS (EARLY)

MAIL-INS (LATE)

TOTAL DUE:
\$

CODE:	# Entries:	EARLY	LATE	CODE:	EARLY	LATE
		\$6	\$15		\$6	\$15
BJOTY	_____ X	\$6	[]	\$15	[]	
BOATOTY	_____ X	\$6	[]	\$15	[]	
BPOTY	_____ X	\$6	[]	\$15	[]	
BVEOTY	_____ X	\$6	[]	\$15	[]	
BSJOTY	_____ X	\$6	[]	\$15	[]	
FCOTY	_____ X	\$6	[]	\$15	[]	
FDOTY	_____ X	\$6	[]	\$15	[]	
FEOTY	_____ X	\$6	[]	\$15	[]	
FMOTY	_____ X	\$6	[]	\$15	[]	
FPOTY	_____ X	\$6	[]	\$15	[]	
FSWOTY	_____ X	\$6	[]	\$15	[]	
NDOTY	_____ X	\$6	[]	\$15	[]	
NEOTY	_____ X	\$6	[]	\$15	[]	
NWOTY	_____ X	\$6	[]	\$15	[]	
MAOTY	_____ X	\$6	[]	\$15	[]	
MDOTY	_____ X	\$6	[]	\$15	[]	
MEOTY	_____ X	\$6	[]	\$15	[]	
MWOTY	_____ X	\$6	[]	\$15	[]	
BMOTY	_____ X	\$6	[]	\$15	[]	
PJOTY	_____ X	\$6	[]	\$15	[]	
YDOTY	_____ X	\$6	[]	\$15	[]	
YEOTY	_____ X	\$6	[]	\$15	[]	
YWOTY	_____ X	\$6	[]	\$15	[]	
AVOTY	_____ X	\$0	[]			
ADOTY	_____ X	\$0	[]			

ENTRIES (EARLY)

ENTRIES (LATE)

TOTAL DUE:
\$

GRAND TOTAL DUE:
\$

ADVISER: _____

SCHOOL: _____

Pay online: www.ArkansasScholasticPressAssociation/aspa-store

Payment Method

School Check # _____ Online Order # _____

Personal Check # _____ Credit Card

PO # _____ Invoice Request

ASP

PRESS THE ISSUE: APPLYING TRUTH, IGNITING CHANGE

ARKANSAS SCHOLASTIC PRESS ASSOCIATION STATE CONVENTION APRIL 25-26, 2024

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

