



## **2023 Rules for the Society for Collegiate Journalists Publications and Broadcasting Contest for College Newspapers, Online Media, Yearbooks, Magazines, Radio and Television Stations**

**PROFESSIONALLY JUDGED | NO FEES**

**ENTRY DEADLINE: February 5, 2024**

### **General Contest Rules:**

1. Only **active** chapters of SCJ and their **initiated** members are eligible to participate. **To be eligible for Organizational Awards**, the chapter must be an active chapter prior to the contest deadline. **To be eligible for Individual Awards**, the person who created this work **MUST** be a dues-paying SCJ member who was inducted before the contest deadline. Eligibility will be verified by the National Office prior to judging. Non-members and honorary members are not eligible to compete.
2. All entries must have been **published or broadcast in the calendar year 2023**.
3. All categories except yearbook are online entry at <https://scjnational.org/contest-awards/annual-national-contest/>
4. No more than three entries from each chapter may be submitted in any individual category. Submit only entries of high quality, which merit attention.
5. Entry deadline is **February 5, 2024**. For yearbook, all entries must be postmarked by this date. Improperly prepared and/or late entries will be disqualified.
6. No entries will be returned to chapters or individual members. Where possible, judges' comments will be published with awards listings on <http://scjnational.org> on or after May 1 and disseminated to advisers via email.
7. The SCJ Contest Director has final say over contest decisions. For example, if too few entries are received in any category the contest director may choose to eliminate the category.
8. All work must have been produced by a student member of an SCJ chapter and must have appeared in a student publication or website or aired on a student broadcasting facility. The contest is not for faculty or staff of the university or for work that has been edited or worked on by outside professionals.
9. If appropriate, include a brief statement (no more than 100 words) explaining unusual circumstances under which an entry was published or broadcast. For example, you may want to put a news story in context, describe action that resulted from it, or detail difficulties encountered in gathering information.

## ORGANIZATIONAL AWARD GUIDELINES

Organizational award categories are for works created by the efforts of a team of students. In these categories, the school and/or publication will be recognized as the winner, not individual student members. We refer to this type of award as an Organizational Award. Organizational Awards must be submitted by active chapters, not individual SCJ members.

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**Special Category: What is truth?** In our current media climate, misinformation is so prevalent it's impacting not only how audiences trust professional journalism, but campus journalism as well. Our special category this year asks for submissions of any coverage of how campuses and student media outlets are grappling with misinformation or disinformation. Submissions in this category may be any type: broadcast, print, online, opinion, news coverage, feature, multimedia...the sky's the limit.

### **SP 1.** Truth in an age of mis/disinformation

**Newspaper Organizational Award** | Submit .pdfs of complete issues published (must have been printed and distributed on campus on or nearest the dates of **March 15, October 15 and December 1**).

#### **NP 1.** Newspaper Overall Excellence

**Online Media Organizational Awards** | Submit a URL. Websites will be visited at least twice during the judging period (February/March).

- OL 1.** Online News Website Overall Excellence (This category is for news outlets that **do not** have a print or broadcast presence. They must operate as stand-alone news websites.)
- OL 2.** Broadcast Website Overall Excellence (These websites can include online versions of a broadcast channel and /or materials meant to complement a radio or television station.)
- OL 3.** Radio Overall Website Excellence (This category is for radio stations that broadcast on the radio and/or online. The sites must operate as stand-alone radio stations.)

**Television Organizational Awards** | Submit a URL of your best show for each category. Submit no more than 30 minutes of each show.

- TV 1.** Television News Show Overall Excellence
- TV 2.** Live Event Broadcast (ex. election night coverage)
- TV 3.** Live Sports Broadcast

**Radio Organizational Awards** | Submit a URL of your best show for each category. Submit no more than 30 minutes of each show.

- RD 1.** Live Radio Show Overall Excellence
- RD 2.** Live Radio Sports Show Overall Excellence

**Social Media Organizational Award** | Submit URLs for all social media accounts for a media single outlet. Platforms will be visited at least two times during the judging period (February/March).

**SM 1.** Social Media Presence Overall Excellence

**Yearbook Organizational Awards** | Submit one hard copy of your yearbook. **No tear sheets.** Books will be judged in all six categories. Complete and include the form below on the inside cover of your book.

**YB 1.** Yearbook Overall Excellence

**YB 1A.** Small School (Less than 7,000 enrollment)

**YB 1B.** Large School (More than 7,000 enrollment)

**YB 2.** The Terry Vander Heyden Award for Coverage of the Year

**YB 3.** Concept of the Book (Judges will look at theme, idea and structure.)

**YB 4.** Writing

**YB 5.** Photography

**YB 6.** Display (Judges will look at layout, design, graphics.)

**Yearbook entries must be submitted in hard copy by snail mail to:**

Andrea Frantz, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
Society for Collegiate Journalists National Office  
610 W. Fourth St.  
Buena Vista University  
Storm Lake, IA 50588

**SCJ 2023 National Contest Yearbook Entry Form**

**Publication Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**College** \_\_\_\_\_ **City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Campus Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**College Enrollment** \_\_\_\_\_

**Person Submitting Entry** \_\_\_\_\_

**INDIVIDUAL AWARD GUIDELINES**

Individual awards are given only to members who have been inducted into the Society. Entries must be submitted by individual SCJ members. Each chapter is allowed **no more than 3 entries** per category.

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**Individual Writing Awards** | Upload a .pdf or submit a URL. **You may NOT enter the same story in more than one category.** In each category, you may enter only one article/column except for IW 3, 4 and 5.

- IW 1.** News Stories (excluding Sports)
- IW 2.** Breaking News
- IW 3.** Enterprise Series (Two or more investigative or in-depth news or feature stories on a single issue.)
- IW 4.** Beat Reporting (Three examples of news coverage in a specific beat i.e. crime, student government, etc.)
- IW 5.** Review (individually bylined review of entertainment or event)
- IW 6.** Editorial (Staff editorials)
- IW 7.** Column or Commentary (Individually bylined opinion writing)
- IW 8.** Feature (excluding Sports)
- IW 9.** Sports News
- IW 10.** Sports Feature
- IW 11.** Sports Column

**Individual Imaging Awards** | Submit a URL or **both** a .pdf (to show context) and a .jpeg of the original.

- II 1.** News Photography
- II 2.** Feature Photography
- II 3.** Sports Photography
- II 4.** Photo Essay (Can be news, feature or sports with at least three photos.)
- II 5.** Animation or motion graphic
- II 6.** Infographic

**Individual Multimedia Awards** | Submit a URL. The judges will visit the urls during the judging period (February/March). The stories should remain active at the site during this time.

- IM 1.** Multimedia news story (Any type of multimedia, including video, audio, text, graphics.)
- IM 2.** Multimedia feature story (Any type of multimedia, including video, audio, text, graphics.)
- IM 3.** Multimedia sports story (Any type of multimedia, including video, audio, text, graphics.)
- IM 4.** Photo slideshow (Slideshows that feature still photography as the main form of storytelling.)
- IM 5.** Podcast (Best episode of a regular audio series in any genre.)

**Individual Television Awards** | Submit as URL, .mov, or .mp4.

- TV 4.** Television News Package

**TV 5.** Television Feature Package

**TV 6.** Television Sports Package

**TV 7.** Commercial, Promotion and Public Announcement (Entries should be no longer than 60 seconds.)

**TV 8.** Short documentary (entry must be 15 minutes or less)

**Individual Radio Awards | Submit as .mp3.**

**RD 3.** Radio News Package

**RD 4.** Radio Feature Package

**RD 5.** Radio Sports Package (sports feature or news story)

**RD. 6** Audio documentary (entry must be on single issue/topic and be between 5-15 minutes)

**RD 7.** Live sports play-by-play/color commentary

**RD 8.** Commercial, Promotion and Public Announcement (Entries should be no longer than 60 seconds.)