

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE

GP

THE 2015
GREAT PLAINS
JOURNALISM AWARDS



PRESENTATION AND
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS
COMING SPRING 2015

GreatPlainsAwards.org

REGIONAL RECOGNITION

Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska,
North Dakota, Oklahoma and South Dakota

To promote the highest standards of journalism, the Tulsa Press Club and Benevolent Association presents the Great Plains Journalism Awards.

Journalists from newspapers, magazines and websites across the region are invited to enter their best work from the past calendar year. After an extensive judging process, winners will be recognized at an awards banquet and conference in Tulsa in April 2015.



**Entry deadline:
Jan. 26, 2015**

Enter at BetterNewspaperContest.com

Tulsa Press Club / 415 S. Boston Avenue / Tulsa, OK 74103 / (918) 583-7737

Preparation
of entries

All submissions must
be made online at

BetterNewspaperContest.com

See contest rules inside this booklet
for details on how to submit entries.

Questions?

Between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., call
Ashley Parrish at (918) 581-8318 or email
greatplainsawards@gmail.com. For entry
fee questions, contact Shaun Lee at (918)
583-7737 or shaun@tulsapressclub.org

**NEW THIS
YEAR:
SCHOLARSHIPS
FOR STUDENT
WINNERS
IN FOUR
CATEGORIES**

The Great Plains Journalism Awards is proud to announce that winners in the following categories each will be eligible to receive a \$1,250 scholarship courtesy of the Tulsa Press Club:

- Student Editor of the Year
- Student Writer of the Year
- Student Photographer of the Year
- Student Designer of the Year

**We look forward
to receiving
your entries and
recognizing you
for a job well
done.**

CONTEST RULES

1. Daily, weekly and monthly newspapers; photography from newspapers, magazines or media websites; magazines (general interest and organizational); and websites associated with newspapers, magazines, television, radio and other news organizations that publish or broadcast in an eligible state or states or websites that are based out of an eligible state are eligible for the contest.

Eligible states are Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma and South Dakota.

2. All entries must have been published between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31, 2014.

3. Entrants who send in URLs — and in all online categories — should keep their sites intact and accessible until May 2015. If a site is behind a paywall, a username and password must be included with every entry.

4. All entries must be made online at betternewspapercontest.com and must be received by Jan. 26 for consideration.

5. Entries that do not provide complete and accurate URLs can be disqualified.

6. The Great Plains Awards reserves the

right to use any part or the whole entry for publicity or educational purposes. Credit will be given to the submitting news organization.

7. Entries can be submitted by employers, such as newspapers or magazines, or by individuals working full time, part time or on a freelance basis. Freelancers' work should be published in states eligible for the contest.

8. The same story, series or photo may be submitted in more than one category. Each entry will require a separate entry fee.

9. Publications and individuals are not limited in the number of entries they can submit.

10. The entry fee is \$25 per entry. Student-only categories are \$15 to enter. Entry fees can be paid by check, money order, purchase order or purchase order number, PayPal or credit card. Checks should be made out to the Tulsa Press Club or call the Tulsa Press Club at 918-583- 7737. Entry fees must be paid or arrangements for fees must be made by Jan. 26.

11. The Great Plains organizing committee will select distinguished journalists to

serve as judges. Names of judges will be announced after the contest period ends.

12. Finalists will be announced in each category, and winners will be honored at a spring banquet.

13. Students may enter any category but must pay the \$25 entry fee to compete in professional categories. Student-only categories are \$15 to enter.

14. Four student categories -- Student Designer of the Year, Student Photographer of the Year, Student Editor of the Year and Student Writer of the Year -- will include a scholarship component. Winners of each category are eligible for a \$1250 scholarship paid directly to the student's university.

15. Online-only publications can submit work where appropriate but must choose to be classified as a newspaper or magazine to compete. Some categories require work that has been printed.

16. Radio, television and other media outlets are welcome to compete in web categories and in other categories where appropriate. Questions about this can be

sent to Ashley Parrish at greatplainsawards@gmail.com.

17. With the exception of the special sections and page design categories, newspaper and newspaper photography categories are open to any work published in print or online by a newspaper or an organization the chooses to enter as a newspaper.

18. Entries should be submitted in one of the following manners:

Stories: A URL link to the story is preferred. A PDF of the work and accompanying material is acceptable if a URL is unavailable. For purposes of the Great Plains Awards winners book, finalists in each category will be asked to submit the text of their story if it cannot be copied from the entry provided.

Design/headline writing: PDFs of the original pages should be submitted.

Photo categories: JPEGs of the photos or PDFs of the photos as published should be submitted.

Video/multimedia/website: A URL link to the entry should be submitted.

QUESTIONS?

Between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., call Ashley Parrish at (918) 581-8318 or email greatplainsawards@gmail.com. For entry fee questions, contact Shaun Lee at (918) 583-7737 or email at shaun@tulsapressclub.org



GREAT PLAINS JOURNALISM AWARDS CATEGORIES

Newspapers

1. News package

A package or series of stories on a single topic. Entries will be judged as a complete package, taking into consideration the writing, reporting, editing, photos, graphics, page design and web content. Name all staff members who contributed. This category is meant to honor every part of a story, from reporting through copy editing.

2. Project/investigative reporting

One story, package or series of stories on a single topic that required more than routine reporting. A brief letter explaining the reporting process is encouraged. No more than five bylines.

3. General news reporting

One story, or continuing coverage, on a single topic. May include sidebars. No more than five bylines.

4. Narrative story/series

One story, package or series of stories on a single topic. Will be judged on quality of storytelling, reporting and writing.

5. Beat reporting

Three to five stories showing coverage of a beat such as education, health or crime.

6. Feature writing

A story, package or series on a single topic. May include sidebars.

7. Business reporting

A story, package or series on a single business topic. May include sidebars.

8. Business feature

A story, package or series on a single topic. May include sidebars.

9. Sports reporting

One story or continuing coverage of a sports event or topic. May include sidebars. No more than five bylines.

10. Sports feature

A story, package or series on a sports topic. May include sidebars.

11. Sports column

Three sports columns. One byline only.

12. Review

Five reviews on topics including food, music, movies, theater or books.

13. Food

Three to five stories showing coverage of a food beat. Reviews, features, blogs or news stories are encouraged.

14. Entertainment feature

A single story or package on an entertainment topic, including personality profiles. May include sidebars.

15. Specialty feature

A story, package or series on a single topic, including home, style, health and related topics. Can include sidebars.

16. Special section

A printed special section created by a newspaper staff. Include a letter explaining the project. Online components can be submitted as supplemental material.

17. News page design

Include five pages per entry.

18. Feature page design

Include five pages per entry.

19. Sports page design

Include five pages per entry.

20. Graphics/Illustration

Include three pages per entry.

21. Editorial cartoon

Five illustrations by an individual.

22. Editorial portfolio

Three to five columns by a single writer on any topic.

23. Personal column portfolio

Three to five columns by a single writer on any topic.

24. Headline portfolio

Submit five headlines written by one person. Include accompanying articles.

25. Great Plains Designer of the Year

Submit five to seven layouts by a single designer.

26. Great Plains Writer of the Year

Submit five to seven articles by a single reporter. Entries will be judged on the quality of reporting and writing.

27. Great Plains Newspaper of the Year (Fewer than 75,000 circulation)

Submit three editions, including two consecutive days and one free choice.

28. Great Plains Newspaper of the Year (More than 75,000 circulation)

Submit three editions, including two consecutive days and one free choice.

Newspaper photography

29. Photo illustration

A single photo. Category can include fashion and food photography, product or concept illustration. A photo that required planning, setup and manipulation.

30. General News

A single photo of a scheduled or organized event for which advance planning was possible.

31. Spot news

A single photo of an unscheduled event for which no advance planning was possible.

32. News photography, multiple

A collection of photos with a single theme that fits the description of the Spot News

or General News category. Twelve image maximum.

33. Feature photography, single

A single photo. Usually a found situation with strong human interest; a fresh view of an everyday scene.

34. Feature photography, multiple

A collection of photos with a single theme that fits the description of the Feature category. Twelve image maximum.

35. Sports action

A single picture showing participation in a game or athletic event that exploits peak action.

36. Sports feature

A feature picture that is sports-related.

37. Portrait

A picture that captures an aspect of the subject's character.

38. Great Plains Newspaper Photographer/Portfolio of the Year

Include up to 12 photos. Must include at least one multiple-picture story. Multiple picture stories count as one of the 12 photos in the portfolio.

Magazine photography

39. Magazine portrait

A single photo of a person.

40. Magazine photo illustration

Category can include fashion and food photography, product or concept illustration. A photo that required planning, setup and manipulation.

Continued on next page

Enter online at BetterNewspaperContest.com / Deadline Jan. 26

GREAT PLAINS JOURNALISM AWARDS CATEGORIES

41. Magazine photography, multiple

A collection of photos with a single theme. Can be feature, general news or spot news, fashion or portraiture. Twelve image maximum.

42. Magazine photography, feature

A single photo. Usually a found situation with strong human interest; a fresh view of an everyday scene.

43. Great Plains Magazine Photographer/Portfolio of the Year

Include up to 12 photos. Must include at least one multiple-picture story. Multiple-picture stories count as one of the 12 photos in the portfolio.

Magazine

44. News writing

An article or series on one topic judged on the quality of reporting and writing.

45. Feature writing

An article or series judged on the quality of reporting and writing.

46. Profile writing

An article on a person judged on the quality of reporting and writing.

47. Column writing

Submit three to five columns by a single writer.

48. Page design

Submit a single story/spread.

49. Magazine cover

Include one cover.

50. Great Plains Magazine Writer of the Year

Include three to five articles by a single reporter. Entries will be judged on the quality of reporting and writing.

51. Great Plains Magazine of the Year

Include three editions, including two consecutive issues and one free choice.

Multimedia/web (open to newspapers, magazines, television, radio and websites)

52. Spot news video

(Maximum length: 5 minutes) An unscheduled and/or breaking news event for which there was no opportunity for planning. The story must have been shot, edited, and posted within 24 hours. Original helicopter aerial video may be treated as file in this category.

53. General news video

(maximum length: 5 minutes) A news based story or an event-based story for which there was advance notice and/or opportunity for planning. The story must have been shot, edited, and posted within 24 hours.

54. Feature video

A general news feature, light feature, or human-interest story. There is no deadline qualification for this category and can include long-term projects.

55. Sports video

A video with sports as its focus. There is no deadline qualification for this category and can include long-term projects.

56. Multimedia project or series

A group of videos, slideshows, animations and/ or illustrations.

57. Best website page design

Include one URL of the page you want judged.

58. Best overall website design

Include the URL of the main page of your website.

59. News blog writing

Submit three to five examples of writing published in a news blog.

60. Entertainment/specialty blog

Submit three to five examples of entertainment or specialty (food, parenting, etc.) writing published in a blog.

61. Sports blog

Submit three to five examples of sports writing published in a blog.

62. Web Special Section

Special section produced by a publication's web staff. Will be judged on content, design and editing. Can provide printed content as supplemental material.

63. Great Plains Website of the Year

A newspaper or magazine website of any size. Include URL .

Student

64. Great Plains Student Photographer of the Year

Include three to five photographs or up to two videos or audio slideshows by a single photographer. Multimedia is encouraged. A letter of recommendation from newspaper adviser is recommended but not required. Winner of this category is eligible for \$1250 scholarship.

65. Great Plains Student Editor in Chief of the Year

Include three to five print editions and a letter from adviser. Winner of this category is eligible for a \$1250 scholarship.

66. Great Plains Student Designer of the Year

Include three to five pages designed by a single designer. A letter of recommendation from newspaper adviser is recommended but not required. Winner of this category is eligible for \$1250 scholarship.

67. Great Plains Student Writer of the Year

Include three to five stories by a single writer. A letter of recommendation from newspaper adviser is recommended but not required. Winner of this category is eligible for \$1250 scholarship.

68. Great Plains Student Newspaper of the Year

Include three editions. Entries will be judged on the quality of content, design and editing.

69. Great Plains Student Website of the Year

Include link to home page and three to five links to individual pages.



Enter online at BetterNewspaperContest.com / Deadline Jan. 26