

# THE 2020 GREAT PLAINS JOURNALISM AWARDS

To promote the highest standards of journalism, the Tulsa Press Club and Tulsa Press Club Foundation presents the Great Plains Journalism Awards. Journalists from newspapers, magazines and website across the eight-state 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 on April 27, 2020. Regional recognition in Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma and South Dakota. Presentation and professional development workshops details will be announced.



**Hear Pulitzer Prize winner  
Tony Messenger at our annual  
awards banquet and conference**

Mark your calendars for April 27 for our annual workshop and awards luncheon.

More information to come.

**PREPARATION OF ENTRIES:** All submissions must be made online at [betternewspapercontest.com](http://betternewspapercontest.com). See contest rules inside this booklet for details on how to submit entries. Entry Deadline: Jan. 31, 2020

**QUESTIONS:** Between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., call James Royal at (918) 581-8394 or Michael Overall at (918) 581-8383, or email [greatplainsawards@gmail.com](mailto:greatplainsawards@gmail.com). For entry fee questions, contact Becki Watson at (918) 583-7737 or [becki@tulsapressclub.org](mailto:becki@tulsapressclub.org). For more information, visit [greatplainsawards.org](http://greatplainsawards.org).

## SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENT WINNERS IN FIVE CATEGORIES

The Great Plains Journalism Awards is proud to announce that winners in the following Dan Harrison Memorial student categories each will be eligible to receive a \$2,000 scholarship courtesy of the Tulsa Press Club Foundation:

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



# GREAT PLAINS JOURNALISM AWARDS RULES

1. Daily, weekly and monthly newspapers and media websites; photography from newspapers, magazines or media websites; magazines (general interest and organizational); television stations; 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, 2019.
3. Entrants who send in URLs — and in all online categories — should keep their sites intact and accessible until May 2020. If a site is behind a paywall, a username and password must be included with every entry.
4. Entries must be made at [betternewspapercontest.com](http://betternewspapercontest.com) and must be received by Jan. 31 for consideration.
5. Entries that do not provide complete and accurate URLs can be disqualified.
6. The Great Plains Awards Journalism 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 at [tulsapressclub.org/sponsorship-tickets](http://tulsapressclub.org/sponsorship-tickets) by credit card or PayPal. If paying by check, call the Tulsa Press Club at 918-583-7737. Entry fees must be paid or arrangements for fees must be made by Jan. 31.
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 professional category but must pay the \$25 entry fee to compete in professional categories. If entering professional category, students will be judged as professionals, not students. Student-only categories are \$15 to enter.
14. Five student categories — Student Designer of the Year, Student Photographer of the Year, Student Editor of the Year, Student Writer of the Year and the Student Broadcaster of the Year — will include a Dan Harrison Memorial Scholarship component. Winners of each category are eligible for a \$2,000 scholarship paid directly to the student.
15. Radio, television and other media outlets are welcome to compete in web and video categories and in other categories where appropriate.
16. Questions about this can be sent to [greatplainsawards@gmail.com](mailto:greatplainsawards@gmail.com). 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.
17. Online-only publications can submit work where desired but must choose to be classified as either a newspaper or magazine to compete (not both). Some categories require work that has been printed.

## QUESTIONS?

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# GP20

ENTER ONLINE AT [BETTERNEWSPAPERCONTEST.COM](http://BETTERNEWSPAPERCONTEST.COM) / DEADLINE JAN. 31

# GREAT PLAINS JOURNALISM AWARDS CATEGORIES

## NEWSPAPER

### 1. NEWS PACKAGE

A package or series of stories on a single topic. Entries will be judged as a complete package, taking into consideration writing, reporting, editing, photos, graphics, design and web content. Name all staff 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 SINGLE STORY

One story on a single topic. May include sidebars. No more than five bylines.

### 4. GENERAL NEWS CONTINUING COVERAGE

Three to five stories published on multiple days covering a single topic. No more than five bylines.

### 5. NARRATIVE STORY/SERIES

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

### 6. BEAT REPORTING

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

### 7. FEATURE WRITING

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

### 8. BUSINESS REPORTING

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

### 9. BUSINESS FEATURE

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

### 10. SPORTS REPORTING

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

### 11. SPORTS FEATURE

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

### 12. SPORTS COLUMN

Three sports columns. One byline only.

### 13. REVIEW

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

### 14. FOOD

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

### 15. ENTERTAINMENT FEATURE

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

### 16. SPECIALTY FEATURE

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

### 17. 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.

### 18. NEWS PAGE DESIGN

Include five pages by a single designer per entry.

### 19. FEATURE PAGE DESIGN

Include five pages by a single designer per entry.

### 20. SPORTS PAGE DESIGN

Include five pages by a single designer per entry.

### 21. GRAPHICS/ILLUSTRATION

Include three pages per entry.

### 22. EDITORIAL CARTOON

Five illustrations by an individual.

### 23. EDITORIAL PORTFOLIO

Three columns by a single writer on any topic.

### 24. NEWS COLUMN PORTFOLIO

Three columns by a single writer on any topic.

### 25. HEADLINE PORTFOLIO

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

### 26. GREAT PLAINS DESIGNER OF THE YEAR

Submit five to seven layouts by a single designer.

### 27. GREAT PLAINS WRITER OF THE YEAR

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

### 28. GREAT PLAINS NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

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

## NEWSPAPER PHOTOGRAPHY

### 29. SPECIALTY PHOTO

A single photo. Category can include studio, food, still life, fashion, etc. A photo that required planning and setup.

### 30. PORTRAIT

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

### 31. GENERAL NEWS

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

### 32. SPOT NEWS

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

### 33. NEWS PHOTOGRAPHY

A collection of photos with a single theme that fits the description of the Spot News or General News category. Twelve image maximum.

### 34. FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHY

A single photo or collection of photos (10 maximum). Usually a found situation with strong human interest; a fresh view of an everyday scene.

### 35. SPORTS ACTION

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

### 36. SPORTS FEATURE

A single feature photo that is sports-related.

### 37. GREAT PLAINS NEWSPAPER PHOTOGRAPHER/PORTFOLIO OF THE YEAR

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

## MAGAZINE PHOTOGRAPHY

### 38. MAGAZINE PORTRAIT

A single photo of a person.

### 39. MAGAZINE SPECIALTY PHOTO

A single photo. Category can include studio, food, still life, fashion, etc. A photo that required planning and setup.

*CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE*

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# GREAT PLAINS JOURNALISM AWARDS CATEGORIES

## 40. 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.

## 41. MAGAZINE LIFESTYLE PHOTO

A single photo of a lifestyle subject, such as home, food or related topic.

## 42. MAGAZINE FASHION PHOTO

A single photo of a fashion subject with a model.

## 43. MAGAZINE PHOTOGRAPHY, FEATURE

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

## 44. GREAT PLAINS MAGAZINE PHOTOGRAPHER/ PORTFOLIO OF THE YEAR

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

## MAGAZINE

## 45. NEWS WRITING

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

## 46. FEATURE WRITING

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

## 47. PROFILE WRITING

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

## 48. COLUMN WRITING

Submit three columns by a single writer.

## 49. LIFESTYLE WRITING

An article about a lifestyle subject, such as home, fashion, travel or related topic.

## 50. FOOD FEATURE WRITING

An article or series focused on food

judged on the quality of reporting and writing.

## 51. READER SERVICE

An article providing practical information for the reader in an easy-to-navigate format. Examples might include a gift guide, readers' choice competition or voter guide.

## 52. ARTS AND CULTURE WRITING

An article about performing arts, visual arts, music, musicians and artists judged on the quality of reporting and writing.

## 53. GRAPHIC/ILLUSTRATION

A single image created specifically for a magazine column, article or feature.

## 54. PAGE DESIGN, PROFILE

Submit a single page/spread for a profile of a person.

## 55. PAGE DESIGN, LIFESTYLE

Submit a single story/spread for a lifestyle subject, home, fashion, travel or related topic.

## 56. PAGE DESIGN, READER SERVICE

Submit a single story/spread for an article providing practical information for the reader in an easy-to-navigate format. Examples might include a gift guide, readers' choice competition or voter guide.

## 57. PAGE DESIGN, GENERAL

Submit a single page/spread that does not fall into one of the other magazine design categories.

## 58. MAGAZINE COVER

Include one cover.

## 59. PAGE DESIGN, PORTFOLIO

Submit four to six pages by one designer. May include covers.

## 60. 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.

## 61. GREAT PLAINS MAGAZINE OF THE YEAR

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

## ONLINE

News articles and blogs that have been published exclusively online may be submitted in the appropriate news categories listed above.

## 62. ONLINE PROJECT

One story, video, package, or series of stories and/or videos on a single topic that required more than routine reporting. A brief letter explaining the reporting process is encouraged.

## 63. MULTIMEDIA GRAPHIC

An online graphic or related series of graphics that present information and data in a compelling, engaging manner.

## 64. BEST WEBSITE DESIGN, PROJECT

Design of group of pages online for a related topic. Include URL of the pages you want judged, up to five URLs, including the main landing page for the topic/project. Examples of topics include election coverage, a football team's season, the Olympics, the energy industry, etc.)

## 65. NEWS FEATURE VIDEO

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

## 66. SPORTS VIDEO

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

## 67. GREAT PLAINS WEBSITE OF THE YEAR

A news website of any size. Include URL.

## HEY STUDENTS!

### DAN HARRISON MEMORIAL STUDENT CATEGORIES

## 68. 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 a \$2,000 scholarship.

## 69. GREAT PLAINS STUDENT EDITOR IN CHIEF OF THE YEAR

Include three to five editions and a letter of recommendation from an adviser. Winner of this category is eligible for a \$2,000 scholarship.

## 70. 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 a \$2,000 scholarship.

## 71. 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 a \$2,000 scholarship.

## 72. GREAT PLAINS STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

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

## 73. GREAT PLAINS STUDENT WEBSITE OF THE YEAR

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

## 74. GREAT PLAINS STUDENT BROADCASTER OF THE YEAR

Include three to five segments from any student broadcast. No more than three to five minutes each. Winner of this category is eligible for a \$2,000 scholarship.

## 75. GREAT PLAINS STUDENT BROADCAST OF THE YEAR

Submit URL to one entire newscast or show, with the air date. Specify if the show is daily or weekly, live or taped. Please remove commercials. 60-minute maximum.

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