SEEKING ENTRIES FOR THE 2014-2015 THSPA

STUDENT MEDIA AWARDS

CONTEST INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES

AWARDS DAY 9:30 A.M. - NOON, MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2015
COLLINS-ALUMNI AUDITORIUM, LIPSCOMB UNIVERSITY
THE THSPA 2014-2015 STUDENT MEDIA AWARDS

THSPA will present all awards at Awards Day 9:30 a.m.-noon Monday, March 2, at Lipscomb University.

THSPA SPECIAL AWARDS

1. H. L. Hall Outstanding Student Journalist: This award, named for the former THSPA director, goes to the student exhibiting strengths in various journalistic areas as well as strong leadership skills. Advisers from member schools may nominate one student for this award. Nomination packages should include examples of a student’s work, a copy of his/her transcript and no more than five letters supporting the nomination. One letter should be from the adviser and one from an administrator. Results from individual categories in this year’s contest may play a role in the decision. Please put all materials in one manila folder and submit. Put the name of the student and the name of the school on the tab of the folder. You should also check the jea.org website about how to prepare the student’s portfolio, as the THSPA winner might be submitted to the national contest. The adviser must be a JEA member if the winner’s portfolio is to be sent to that level.

2. Bonnie Hufford Outstanding Student Media Adviser: This award will go to the student media adviser exhibiting outstanding teaching abilities. Nominations should come from student editors and should showcase the teaching of the adviser. Please include a personal résumé from the teacher, any articles the teacher may have written, and no more than four letters of recommendation from students, administrators and parents. Please put all materials in one manila folder and submit. Put the name of the adviser and the name of the school on the tab of the folder.

3. Administrator of the Year: This award will go to the school administrator who has exhibited support for journalism/creative arts in general and student media in particular. Please send a letter of recommendation explaining your relationship with the administrator and his or her contributions. Optional to include: Administrator’s resume, articles about the nominee and no more than three one-page letters from students or other teachers. Please put all materials in one manila folder and submit. Place the name of the administrator and the name of the school on the tab of the folder.

THSPA INDIVIDUAL CONTEST CATEGORIES

NEWSPAPER/NEWSMAGAZINE
1. BEST NEWS STORY
2. BEST FEATURE STORY
3. BEST COLUMN (NO REVIEWS)
4. BEST REVIEW
5. BEST EDITORIAL
6. BEST PHOTOGRAPH
7. BEST SPORTS STORY
8. BEST ILLUSTRATION/CARTOON
9. BEST FRONT PAGE DESIGN
10. BEST INSIDE PAGE DESIGN
11. BEST ADVERTISEMENT
12. BEST OVERALL NEWSPAPER/NEWSMAGAZINE

YEARBOOK
13. BEST STUDENT LIFE COPY
14. BEST ORGANIZATIONS OR SPORTS COPY
15. BEST ACADEMIC COPY
16. BEST BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPH
17. BEST COLOR PHOTOGRAPH
18. BEST STUDENT LIFE Designs
19. BEST SPORTS DESIGN
20. BEST ORGANIZATIONS DESIGN
21. BEST INDEX DESIGN
22. BEST ADVERTISEMENT
23. BEST THEME PACKAGE
24. BEST OVERALL YEARBOOK

LITERARY MAGAZINE
25. BEST POEM
26. BEST SHORT STORY
27. BEST ILLUSTRATION/ART
28. BEST PHOTOGRAPH
29. BEST LAYOUT/DESIGN
30. BEST OVERALL LITERARY MAGAZINE

BROADCAST
31. BEST TELEVISION REPORTER
32. BEST VIDEOGRAPHER
33. BEST PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT
34. BEST COMMERCIAL
35. BEST SPORTS SHOW
36. BEST SHORT FEATURE STORY
37. BEST NEWS/SPORTS PACKAGE
38. BEST SPORTS COVERAGE OF A LIVE EVENT
39. BEST NEWSCAST / NEWS MAGAZINE
40. MARK MADISON BEST OVERALL TELEVISION STATION

MULTIMEDIA
41. BEST DIGITAL ART/GRAPHIC DESIGN
42. BEST PHOTO ESSAY
43. BEST VIDEO OR DOCUMENTARY
44. BEST MUSIC VIDEO
45. BEST LIP DUB VIDEO
46. BEST OVERALL WEBSITE

GENERAL INFORMATION

This contest is open exclusively to students attending THSPA member schools. If your medium has not yet joined THSPA, you must pay the $45 membership fee to enter the contest. (See Page 5, or go to the “Membership” page at www.tennpress.org.)

All individual entries must be submitted by Jan. 17, 2015, to www.Submittable.com; the site’s submission window will close after that date. THSPA will send members a link that will allow you to create an account at this site. Submittable.com accepts all kinds of electronic files: .pdf, .jpg, .doc, .docx, .mp3, .mp4. Individual entries that are mailed to THSPA will not be forwarded to the judges.

For the special awards and overall awards, the entries must be placed in a standard manila file folder (11 1/2 x 9 1/2 inches). Color folders are not allowed. Write the category being entered, the student’s name, publication or station name, the date of publication and the school’s name on the tab. These submissions must be postmarked by Jan. 17, 2015.

Each school may submit up to four entries per category, with the following exceptions: up to two entries for Best Sports Coverage of a Live Sports Event and Best Newscast / News Magazine; up to three entries of the other Broadcast categories and of Multimedia categories. See last page for payment notes.
Ship entries and send payment by Jan. 17, 2015, to: THSPA Contests
c/o Dr. Jimmy McCollum
Tennessee High School Press Association
Lipscomb University
One University Park Drive
Nashville, TN 37204-3951

Judges are not required to make comments on the entries. Overall entries will be available for pick-up at the March 2 awards ceremony. For contest information and/or questions, please contact THSPA Director Jimmy McCollum or student assistant Jessica Parsley at 615-966-5607 or at THSPA@Lipscomb.edu.

Newspaper/Newsmagazine (Individual entries must be submitted to www.Submittable.com. They may be from anytime in 2014.)

1. Best News Story: Stories should focus on a news event—either past or future.
2. Best Feature Story: Features may be profiles, news features, entertaining features, or features dealing with sensitive and controversial issues. Do not enter sports features in this category.
3. Best Column: These should be bylined, and they may be editorial, entertaining or sports columns that show the personal opinion of the writer. Please enter reviews in Category 4.
4. Best Review: Entries should be bylined and they may be reviews of anything, including movies, TV shows, restaurants, books and video games.
5. Best Editorial: These should not be bylined. They should be the opinion of the newspaper, not of one person.
6. Best Photograph: These may be color or black and white and they may accompany a feature, news or sports story. Photo essays are not allowed.
7. Best Sports Story: Sports features should be entered in this category. Entries may also consist of coverage and advance stories. Emphasis should be on the action on the field or court of play for coverage stories and on strengths and weaknesses of both teams in advanced stories.
8. Best Illustration/Cartoon: These may be cartoons, which accompany editorials, or illustrations, which accompany features or sports stories. They may also be cartoons or illustrations that stand alone and are self-explanatory.
9. Best Front Page Design: Submit any front page. This can be a pdf or a photo of the page.
10. Best Inside Page Design: Submit any opinion, feature or sports page. This can be a pdf or a photo of the page.
11. Best Advertisement: Entries in this category should be student created. Do not submit entries that businesses have created. It is not necessary that the student entering this contest be the one who sold the ad, but the student entering must have edited and created the final ad.
12. Best Overall Newspaper/Newsmagazine: Submit two issues of the publication from 2014; at least one must have been published in the fall. These entries should be postmarked to THSPA by Jan. 17, 2015.

Yearbook (Individual entries must be submitted to www.Submittable.com. Entries may be from your 2013-2014 yearbook or created since then.)

13. Best Student Life Copy: Submit one article from the Student Life section of the yearbook. This may be a full feature story or a sidebar.
14. Best Organizations or Sports Copy: Submit one article from the Organizations section or the Sports section of the yearbook. This may be a full feature story or a sidebar (not a scoreboard).
15. Best Academic Copy: Submit one article from the Academics section of the yearbook. This may be a full feature story or a sidebar.
16. Best Black and White Photograph: This photo may come from any section of the book. It should be one full of action—not posed.
17. Best Color Photograph: This photo may come from any section of the book. It should be one full of action—not posed.
18. Best Student Life Design: Submit one page or one spread (two facing pages) from the Student Life section. Show all elements of the design, including photos, captions and copy. This can be a pdf or a photo of the design.
19. Best Sports Design: Submit one page or one spread (two facing pages) from the sports section. Show all elements of the design, including photos, captions and copy. This can be a pdf or a photo of the design.
20. Best Organizations Design: Submit one page or one spread (two facing pages) from the club section. Show all elements of the design, including photos, captions and copy. This can be a pdf or a photo of the design.
21. Best Index Design: Submit one page or one spread (two facing pages) from the index. Show all elements of the design, including photos, captions and copy. This can be a pdf or a photo of the design.
22. Best Advertisement: Entries in this category should be student-created. Do not submit entries which businesses have created. It is not necessary that the student entering this contest be the one who sold the ad, but the student entering must have edited and created the final ad.
23. Best Theme Package: Submit the cover, end sheets, title page, opening section, one divider spread and closing section—all spreads which should indicate how you developed your theme. Be sure copy and captions are included. Show all elements of the design, including photos, captions and copy.
24. Best Overall Yearbook: Submit one copy of your 2013-2014 yearbook. By submitting a copy of your book, your yearbook will automatically be entered in the Best Theme category as well. No folder is necessary for this category.

Literary Magazine (Individual entries must be submitted to www.Submittable.com. Entries may be from your 2013-2014 magazine or created since then.)

25. Best Poem: Poem must have been published or be scheduled to be published in school’s literary magazine.
26. Best Short Story: Story must have been published or be scheduled to be published in school’s literary magazine.
27. Best Illustration/Art: Please submit the copy of the story the art is illustrating along with the art. If the illustration or art was meant to stand alone, it is not necessary to also submit the story.
28. Best Photograph: Photograph must have been published or be scheduled to be published in school’s literary magazine.

**Broadcast**: Each school may submit up to *three* entries per category, with the exception of Best Sports Coverage of a Live Event and Best Newscast / News Magazine, which have a limit of two entries per school. Because these entries take so long for the judge to evaluate, please enter only worthy submissions. The entries must be submitted to Submittable.com, either with a URL or by uploading the video file. Best Television Reporter would be the one video of the reporter’s story, and NOT part of a newscast with studio introduction or close; Best Sports Show would be an edited segment of a single sports report as part of a newscast with several video clips if stories included; Best Newscast/Newsmagazine would be a video of all or part of a single continuous newscast edited only for length (so as to not go over the 30-minute-maximum criterion). Entries that do not follow specifications will be disqualified.

31. Best Television Reporter: Submit one video no longer than 5 minutes containing *three news, feature or sports stories* done by one common reporter. These are to be samples of work, so remember to submit three separate stories. Full newscasts or newscast segments are not to be included; entries do not have to include studio intros or outros. Entries may be from anytime in 2014. **Judging criteria**: audio, video, editing, writing (x2), delivery/presence (x2).

32. Best Videographer: Submit one video no longer than 5 minutes containing *three news, feature or sports stories*. These are stories, not a collage of videos. Video style and how it contributes to telling each story is the primary objective. Entries do not have to include studio intros or outros. Entries may be from anytime in 2014. **Judging criteria**: audio, video, editing, writing, delivery/presence.

33. Best Public Service Announcement: Submit one video of a PSA of no more than 2 minutes in length. **Judging criteria**: audio, video, production, editing, talent delivery/presence, writing (x2), creativity (x2), persuasiveness (x3).

34. Best Commercial: Submit one video no longer than 2 minutes containing one commercial that the student(s) wrote and edited. **Judging criteria**: audio, video, production, editing, talent delivery/presence, writing (x2), creativity (x2), persuasiveness (x3).

35. Best Sports Show: Submit one video, no longer than 5 minutes in length, of your best sports show that aired anytime in 2014. This is a conglomeration of sports stories or presentations within a newscast; it is a segment from a single program, and not a single package. **Judging criteria**: audio, video, editing, writing, delivery/presence.

36. Best Short Feature Story: Submit one video of your best feature story from a news presentation of no more than 5 minutes in length. To clarify: a feature is a human interest story; it has a softer edge than a news package. **Judging criteria**: audio, video, production/editing, talent, delivery/presentation, writing (x2).

37. Best News/Sports Package: Submit one video no longer than 5 minutes of your best news package work. A package is a self-contained story and typically includes the reporter (on or off-camera) doing a self-identification tag-out (“This is John Smith for Tiger News.”). **Judging criteria**: audio, video, production/editing, talent, delivery/presence, writing (x2).

38. Best Sports Coverage of a Live Event: Submit one continuous segment of no more that 30 minutes in length of the event. This is NOT a collection of highlights, but a recording of a continuous live event. Each school may submit no more than two entries. Entries may be from anytime in 2014. **Judging criteria**: continuity, audio, video, production, graphics, writing, talent delivery/presence.

39. Best Newscast/Newsmagazine: Submit one video of no longer than 30 minutes in length of your best single news presentation that aired anytime in 2014. Each school may submit no more than two entries in this category. **Judging criteria**: audio, video, graphics, production, writing, talent, delivery/presence.

40. Mark Madison Best Television Station: Automatic consideration; no submission necessary: Results in categories 33-39 will be considered in the selection of the Best Television Station, with emphasis doubled for Best Newscast/News Magazine. Therefore, all schools entering Best Newscast/Newsmagazine will be included; schools do NOT have to enter all seven categories, and those that submit fewer entries will not be penalized.

**Multimedia (Individual entries may be from anytime in 2014. All entries are to be submitted to Submittable.com.)**

41. Best digital art/graphic design: Entrants may enter URL of website or upload the picture or jpg file.
42. Best photo essay: This award is for such presentations as photo galleries, Soundslides projects, Animoto.com videos or other essays. Entrants may supply the URL address of the website or upload the picture or jpg file.
43. Best audio: This award is for interviews, podcasts or other uses of audio-only projects. Entrants may enter the URL (for sites such as Soundcloud) or upload the audio file.
44. Best video or documentary: This award is for short films, videos or documentaries, not music videos. Entrants may upload the video or supply the URL address of the website (or YouTube, Vimeo, etc.).
45. Best music video: Submit one music video produced anytime in 2014. Entrants may upload the video or supply the URL address of the website (or YouTube, Vimeo, etc.). Shot-by-shot recreations of an original video are not encouraged here.
46. Best Lip Dub Video: Submit one video featuring a continuous camera take (not scenes edited together), produced anytime in 2014. Entrants may upload the video or supply the URL address of the website (or YouTube, Vimeo, etc.).

47. Best overall website: This award is for either of the following: (a) sites operated in conjunction with a student newspaper, magazine, yearbook or broadcast, or (b) sites that produce primarily original content and operate independently (or in the absence) of other student news organizations. The judge will consider design, content, interactivity, use of multimedia tools and how the site serves its audience. Entrants must supply the URL of the website to Submittable.com.
2014-2015 THSPA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

If your medium is not a member of THSPA you will need to become a member to compete in the 2014-2015 Student Media Awards competition.

Please type or print clearly.

School Name ___________________________________________________

Publication Name ________________________________________________

Street Address ___________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________

City _____________________________ State _____ Zip ___________

Adviser Name ___________________________________________________

School Phone Number ____________________________________________

School Fax Number ______________________________________________

Adviser Email Address ____________________________________________

☐ Newspaper ☐ Yearbook ☐ News Magazine ☐ Literary Magazine ☐ Broadcast

*If there is more than one medium from your school joining, please complete a separate application for each group.

☐ $45 regular medium annual membership

☐ $40 publication/broadcast critique

Total: $___________

Make check payable to THSPA.

Return this Membership Form, with payment, to:

Tennessee High School Press Association
Lipscomb University
One University Park Dr.
Nashville, TN 37204-3951

Questions?
Call 615-966-5607 or via e-mail at THSPA@Lipscombedu

CATEGORY 23 ENTRY FORM
Best Yearbook Theme Package

Please use this form if entering category 24.

Please type or print clearly.

Student(s) Name ________________________________

Publication Name ________________________________

School Name _______________________________________

Please place this completed form inside the front cover of your yearbook.

CATEGORY 24 ENTRY FORM
Best Overall Yearbook

Please use this form if entering category 26 as mentioned in the contest guidelines.

Please type or print clearly.

Adviser Name ________________________________

Publication Name ________________________________

School Name _______________________________________

Please place this completed form inside the front cover of your yearbook.
PAYMENT AND ENTRY FORM

In the blanks next to each category, indicate how many entries your staff is submitting. The fee is $2 for each entry unless otherwise noted.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Newspaper/Newsmagazine</th>
<th>Special Awards</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Best News Story</td>
<td>H. L. Hall Outstanding Student Journalist ($4)</td>
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<td>Bonnie Hufford Outstanding Student Media Adviser ($4)</td>
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<td>3. Best Column (No Reviews)</td>
<td>Administrator of the Year ($4)</td>
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Total Amount: $ __________________

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