



2026 CALL FOR ENTRIES

Recognizing outstanding achievement in journalism and advertising is an important role of the Nevada Press Foundation. Our contest honors individuals and news organizations for their best work, and for their contributions to the profession.

CONTEST DATES

All entry material must have been originally published between April 1, 2025, and March 31, 2026. Only regular and affiliate NPA member companies in good standing are eligible to participate in the contest.

DEADLINE

Entries must be uploaded by the close of business on Saturday, May 30, 2026 at 10:00 pm to be eligible for early entry fees.

[ENTER HERE](#)

WHAT'S NEW

New Categories:

- 15. Business Enterprise Reporting
- 43. Sports Enterprise Reporting

These Categories will have winners in every Division rather than a single overall winner.

- 20. Education Reporting
- 24. Environmental Reporting
- 28. Gaming & Tourism
- 30. Health Reporting
- 35. Police/Criminal Justice Reporting
- 20. Education Reporting
- 24. Environmental Reporting
- 56. Outstanding Journalist
- 71. Outstanding Graphic Designer
- 72. Outstanding Visual Journalist

QUESTIONS

ballfrey@nevadapress.com / 801-541-9517

FEES

- The fee is \$10 per entry received by May 30, 2026.
- The fee is \$15 per entry received by June 14, 2026.
- Payment will be made on the contest entry site after all entries have been submitted. Do not finalize your entries until you are done entering submissions.

Contact Brian Allfrey to pay by check

Please make checks payable to Nevada Press Foundation.

HOW TO ENTER

Step 1 — NEVADA is the Association Code. You will need this when you register on the contest website using your email address. You will receive a confirmation email, which you will need to complete registration. Use the link above to register.

Step 2 — Login [HERE](#). You will see a page showing any entries you have already submitted. Complete rules for both advertising and editorial contests are available above (click links). Some browsers, such as Safari, will open the rules in a new window; others will require you to download the PDF file to your computer.

Step 3 — Click on the "Add New Entry" link.

Step 4 — On this page, select your newspaper name. A lot of information will autofill. If that information is incorrect, please call Denice Page at (801) 237-2376. Fill in the preparer's name.

Step 5 — Select the contest class. These are drop-down menus for your convenience. This field will clear each time you save an entry, so you must select a class for each new entry. When you select the class, special instructions will appear below it.

Step 6 — If necessary, provide an explanation of your entry. The explanation/cutline box is limited to 3,000 characters. It is a good idea to write your explanation in another program, such as Word, and copy/paste into the explanation box. If a URL is required, fill in the URL box; there is no need to type "http://"

Step 7 — Include the name of the entry. If uploading full-page PDF files, it will be helpful if the entry name matches the headline on the page so the judges can find it easily. If the judges cannot tell what is to be judged, the entry will be discarded without refund.

Step 8 — Include the name of the person or people who should be credited for any award. This is generally the writer, reporter, photographer, graphic artist, cartoonist, etc. It is not necessarily the name of the person submitting the entry nor the person picking up the award at the convention.

Step 9 — Add your file or files. You can drag and drop files or use the "Add files" button to navigate your files. Generally, files should be in PDF format except photos, which should be in high-resolution JPG format. Other files and URLs may be acceptable as noted in the special instructions. Upload as many files as are necessary to complete your entry but refer to the special instructions for any limitations.

Step 10 — When you have completed your submission, click the "Save" button. If you click the "Back to list" button, you will lose the entry you just completed. After clicking "Save," you will be directed back to the list of your entries.

Step 11 — To submit another entry, click "Add New Entry." As long as you have not logged out of the system, your newspaper name will still be in place, and you can simply start at Step 6 again. You may log out and log back in later to continue adding entries.

You will need to select your newspaper name each time you log in.

GROUP 1: **URBAN (U)**

News organizations that primarily serve the Las Vegas or Reno-Tahoe metro areas.

ADVERTISING CONTEST CATEGORIES

01 **ADVERTISING GENERAL EXCELLENCE**

Entries should reflect the best of Nevada print and online advertising. Submit a PDF of four issues, one from each of the calendar periods below.

Newspapers with weekend or Sunday editions must submit at least two issues from weekday editions. A letter of explanation may be included. Entries will be judged on the overall quality of both print and online advertising content.

**April 1 - June 30, 2025, July 1 - Sept. 30, 2025,
Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2025, Jan. 1 - March 31, 2026**

02 **DIGITAL AD**

Single advertisement published on the news organization's website. Can be any kind of digital ad, including static or animated. Entries consist of a link to a web page containing the ad, a PDF of a web page containing the ad (if it's static) or an animated GIF, HTML 5 Banner, flash animation or short video

03 **IN-HOUSE ADVERTISING**

Entries consist of a single ad or campaign promoting advertising, circulation, editorial or an event hosted by the publication. Campaign promotions may include rack cards, electronic advertising, flyers, etc. Entries must include a letter of explanation about the strategy behind the promotion and the results it achieved.

04 **PRINT AD 1/2 PAGE OR LARGER**

Entries consist of a single b/w or color advertisement created and produced locally. No house ads. Ads may be submitted in a separate PDF or JPG, but they must also be submitted in context as a PDF or JPG of a complete page on which the ad was published.

05 **PRINT AD LESS THAN 1/2 PAGE**

Entries consist of a single b/w or color advertisement created and produced locally. No house ads. Ads may be submitted in a separate PDF or JPG, but they must also be submitted in context as a PDF or JPG of a complete page on which the ad was published.

06 **SPECIAL EVENT**

Sponsored, hosted or promotional events, including but not limited to, food or musical festivals, conferences, expos, trade shows, job fairs, candidate debates, scavenger hunts, bar crawls, panel discussions, and issue forums, including virtual versions of these type of events. Entries may consist of promotional ads or other marketing material, event directories or agendas, news coverage, etc. They must include a letter of explanation describing the event and highlighting its benefit to the publication and community.

07 **SPECIAL SECTION OR CAMPAIGN (ADVERTISING)**

Conceptually unified section or campaign featuring multiple advertisers. May be a single page, section, supplement or insert.

Category is for one-time or annual sections. Submit a PDF of the page, section, supplement or insert. Limit of two entries per publication.



GROUP 1: **URBAN (U)**

News organizations that primarily serve the Las Vegas or Reno-Tahoe metro areas.

EDITORIAL CONTEST CATEGORIES

11 **ART AND CULTURE COMMENTARY**

Entries consist of three pieces of arts and culture commentary in the form of reviews and/or essays.

Limit of one entry per writer.

12 **BREAKING NEWS REPORTING**

Entries consist of a single story or multiple stories published over a period of 24 hours, with the focus on coverage of a specific event in print and on the web. No series. Entries may include articles, sidebars, graphics, video, audio, slideshows, interactive features or other components of breaking news.

13 **BUSINESS FEATURE STORY**

Feature story about commerce in general or about a particular business or business person. Entries consist of a single story or a main story with sidebar.

14 **BUSINESS SPOT NEWS STORY**

Entries consist of a single business story or multiple business stories published over a period of 24 hours, with the focus on coverage of a specific event in print and on the web. No series. Entries may include articles, sidebars, graphics, video, audio, slideshows, interactive features or other components of breaking news.

15 **BUSINESS ENTERPRISE REPORTING**

Original reporting that examines business, economic, or workplace issues through enterprise journalism. Entries should go beyond routine coverage and demonstrate initiative in uncovering information through interviews, records, data analysis, or investigative reporting. Stories may focus on local businesses, economic development, labor issues, corporate practices, or trends affecting the business community. Submissions may be a single story, a main story with sidebar, or a series. A letter explaining the reporting and its impact may be included. Limit: No more than three articles per entry.

16 **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Rewards work that has a lasting, positive impact in the community. The work may take the form of a series of stories or photos, an editorial crusade, a marketing campaign focused on an important local issue, or some other manifestation of community-oriented service, and it must relate to a single project, drive or campaign. Letters of explanation are encouraged, especially if the work itself does not contain evidence of its community impact.

Limit of two entries per newspaper

17 **COVERAGE OF UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES**

Recognizes coverage that advances the understanding of issues related to underserved Nevadans, such as communities of color, immigrants and LGBTQ+. Entries consist of up to three pieces about underserved communities, including features and/or breaking news, photo essays, and video storytelling, but not including editorials.

18 **EDITORIAL PAGE**

Recognizes the best opinion page published in a newspaper in Nevada. Submit four editorial pages, one from each of the following calendar periods below. Must indicate in a letter of explanation the content that is generated locally.

Limit of one entry per newspaper

**April 1 - June 30, 2025, July 1 - Sept. 30, 2025,
Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2025, Jan. 1 - March 31, 2026**

19 **EDITORIAL WRITING**

Entries consist of three samples of editorial writing by the samewriter. No personal columns; only unsigned editorials expressing a news organization's institutional opinion. Please indicate on the entry who wrote the editorials. Limit of one entry per writer.

20 **EDUCATION REPORTING**

Entries consist of a single education story, multiple education stories or series. Entries may include articles, sidebars, graphics, video, audio, slideshows, interactive features or other components of breaking news.

EDITORIAL CONTEST CATEGORIES

21 EMAIL NEWSLETTER

Entries consist of three issues of a regularly distributed email newsletter produced by a single writer or reporter, or by a team of writers and reporters. To qualify, the newsletter must have a fixed title and must have been distributed on at least a monthly basis.

22 ENTERTAINMENT FEATURE STORY

Entries consist of a single story or a main story with sidebar, focused on the arts, entertainment, dining / restaurants or other leisure activities. No series.

23 ENTERTAINMENT SPOT NEWS STORY

Entries consist of a single entertainment story or multiple entertainment stories published over a period of 24 hours, with the focus on coverage of a specific event in print and on the web. No series. Entries may include articles, sidebars, graphics, video, audio, slideshows, interactive features or other components of breaking news.

24 ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING

Entries consist of a single environmental story, multiple environmental stories, or series. Entries may include articles, sidebars, graphics, video, audio, slideshows, interactive features or other components of breaking news.

25 EXPLANATORY JOURNALISM

Reporting that illuminates an important and complex subject, and demonstrates mastery of the subject. Entries consist of a single story, a main story with sidebar, or a series that explains in-depth an issue of significant importance to the community.

Limit: No more than eight stories per entry.

26 FEATURE WRITING

Entries consist of a single story or a main story published together with a sidebar. No series. Entries should have a human-interest focus. Entertainment, lifestyle and health or general-interest features may be entered in this category. (For profiles, see #41 Profiles.)

27 FOOD/DINING WRITING

Entries consist of three pieces of writing about food/and/or restaurants, including features and/or reviews, or breaking news, but not including editorials. Limit of one entry per writer.

28 GAMING/TOURISM REPORTING

Entries consist of three pieces of writing about gaming/and/or tourism, including features and/or reviews, or breaking news, but not including editorials. Limit of one entry per writer.

29 HEADLINE WRITING

Entries consist of three separate headlines written by the same person, that appeared in print or online. Each entry for print headlines must include full news pages that clearly indicate the headlines being submitted, and must identify the name of the writer or editor. Each entry for online headlines must include the story URLs and the name of the writer or editor. Limit of one entry per writer or editor and five entries per news organization.

30 HEALTH REPORTING

Entries consist of a single health story, multiple health stories, or series. Entries may include articles, sidebars, graphics, video, audio, slideshows, interactive features or other components of breaking news.

31 INVESTIGATIVE STORY

Reporting on a single subject that reflects investigative enterprise. May be a single story, a main story and sidebar or a series. If the story leads to further developments, you may submit additional reporting published after March 31, 2025, attesting to its impact. A letter of explanation may be submitted.

Limit: No more than eight articles per entry.

32 LOCAL COLUMN

Entries consist of three columns written by the same columnist. The column must focus primarily on local matters and be regularly and originally published by the news organization submitting the entry. Limit of one entry per columnist.

EDITORIAL CONTEST CATEGORIES

33 LOCAL SPORTS COLUMN

Entries consist of three columns written by the same columnist. The column must focus on local sports and be regularly and originally published by the news organization submitting the entry.

Limit of one entry per columnist.

34 NEWS OBITUARY

Death notice of a local or national public figure written by the news organization submitting the entry. Each entry consists of a single obituary.

35 POLICE/CRIMINAL JUSTICE REPORTING

Entries consist of a single Political/Criminal Justice Reporting story, multiple, or series. Entries may include articles, sidebars, graphics, video, audio, slideshows, interactive features or other components of breaking news.

36 GOVERNMENT WATCHDOG / ACCOUNTABILITY

Coverage of government at any level that holds officials accountable, shines a light in places the public can't see, and reflects shoe-leather reporting, including source development and document discovery. May be a single story, a main story and sidebar or a series. A letter of explanation describing the work and its impact may be submitted. Limit: No more than three articles per entry will be accepted.

37 POLITICAL ENTERPRISE REPORTING

Coverage of political or governmental issues that reflects shoe-leather reporting, including source development and document discovery. Entries should demonstrate initiative and in-depth reporting on public policy, government actions, political figures, or issues affecting the public. Submissions may be a single story, a main story and sidebar, or a series. A letter of explanation describing the work and its impact may be submitted. Limit: No more than three articles per entry will be accepted.

38 PROFILE

Written portrait that explores the background and character of a particular person or group. Entries consist of a single story or a main story with a sidebar.

39 SPECIAL PROJECT

Entries consist of a book, calendar, special edition or other project produced separately from the regular publication schedule. Submit a PDF or JPEG of the project.

Limit of two entries per news organization.

40 SPECIAL SECTION (EDITORIAL)

Entries consist of a special edition or section created and distributed by a newspaper with emphasis on the editorial content. Does not include regular weekly publications such as TV books, real-estate sections, entertainment magazines, etc. Submit a PDF of the section.

Limit of two entries per newspaper.

41 SPORTS FEATURE WRITING

Entries consist of a single story or a main story with sidebar focused on human interest in sports or recreation.

42 SPORTS SPOT NEWS STORY

Entries consist of a single sports story or multiple sports stories published over a period of 24 hours, with the focus on coverage of a specific event in print and on the web. No series. Entries may include articles, sidebars, graphics, video, audio, slideshows, interactive features or other components of breaking news.

43 SPORTS ENTERPRISE REPORTING

Original reporting that examines sports issues through enterprise journalism. Entries should go beyond routine game coverage and demonstrate initiative in uncovering information through interviews, records, data analysis, or investigative reporting. Stories may focus on athletes, teams, coaching, program management, policies, financial issues, safety concerns, or trends affecting the sports community. Submissions may be a single story, a main story with sidebar, or a series. A letter explaining the reporting and its impact may be included.

Limit: No more than three articles per entry.

EDITORIAL CONTEST CATEGORIES

51 GENERAL ONLINE EXCELLENCE

Recognizes overall excellence of a news organization's online presence. Entries consist of six deep links (i.e., not the home page) to content on a website. Entrants should consider including links to web pages that vary in style, purpose or functionality, as opposed to, for instance, linking to identically formatted story pages.

52 FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

Writing and reporting promoting the principles of the First Amendment and the public's right to know. Entries may consist of stories, editorials, columns, video and/or audio files, or any other manifestations of journalism. Must also include a letter of explanation describing the work and its impact in the community. Limit: No more than eight pieces per entry. Award will be presented to a news organization, not an individual.

53 EDITORIAL OF THE YEAR

Recognizes the best unsigned, house editorial expressing a news organization's institutional opinion. One editorial per entry. Please indicate on the entry who wrote the editorial. There will be only one winning entry in this category, i.e., no second or third place winners.

54 STORY OF THE YEAR

Recognizes the best story published in Nevada during the period of competition. May be a single story, a main story and sidebar, or a series on a single subject. Articles entered in this category may be entered in other categories as well.

There will be only one overall winning entry in this category, i.e., no second or third place winners. Limit: No more than eight articles per entry will be accepted.

55 JOURNALIST OF MERIT

Entrants must have less than five years of professional journalism experience and may come from any part of the newsroom. Entries consist of a brief resume of the nominee, along with a written statement about journalistic achievements and four samples of his or her work during the contest period.

Limit of two entries per news organization.

There will be only one overall winning entry in this category, i.e., no second or third place winners.

56 OUTSTANDING JOURNALIST

Recognizes outstanding service and performance to the profession of journalism. Entrants may come from any segment of the newsroom. Entries must include four samples of the nominee's work, along with a brief resume and brief description of his or her journalistic achievements during the contest period.

Limit of two entries per news organization.

There will be only one overall winning entry in this category, i.e., no second or third place winners.

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST CATEGORIES

60

FEATURE PHOTO

Entries consist of a photo or photos illustrating a single story that is not directly related to a specific breaking news event. Photos should have a storytelling quality or contain unusual elements. No portraits (see #51. Portrait).

Photo(s) may be submitted as a separate PDF or JPG, but they also must be submitted in context, either as a PDF, JPG or web link of the page on which they were published.

61

MULTIPLE PHOTO ESSAY OR GALLERY

Single subject addressed primarily through the use of two or more photos, with accompanying text being a secondary consideration. Entries consist of a complete photo essay or photo gallery. Regular news or feature stories that just happen to include multiple photos are not eligible to compete in this category. Photos submitted cannot be directly related to a breaking news event. Photo essay or gallery must be submitted in context, either as a PDF or web link of the page on which it was published. Entries may include photos taken by more than one photographer.

62

NEWS PHOTO COVERAGE

Entries consist of a photo or photos from a single news event, even if the photos were taken by different photographers. Photo(s) may be submitted as a separate PDF or JPG, but they also must be submitted in context, either as a PDF, JPG or web link of the page on which they were published.

63

PORTRAIT

Entries consist of a single photo of a person or a small group of people. Photo may be submitted as a separate PDF or JPG, but it also must be submitted in context, either as a PDF, JPG or web link of the page on which it was published.

64

SPORTS PHOTO

Entries consist of a single photo of a sports-related event. No portraits. Photo may be submitted as a separate PDF or JPG, but it also must be submitted in context, either as a PDF, JPG or web link of the page on which it was published.

65

PHOTO OF THE YEAR

Recognizes the best photo published by a news organization in Nevada during the contest period. Photos submitted in this category may be entered in other categories as well. Photo may be submitted as a separate PDF or JPG, but it also must be submitted in context, either as a PDF, JPG or web link of the page on which it was published.

There will be only one winning entry in this category, i.e., no second or third place winners

VISUAL / AUDIO CONTEST CATEGORIES

70 EDITORIAL CARTOON OF THE YEAR

Recognizes the best original opinion-oriented cartoon created for a publication by a staff member or freelancer. No syndicated cartoons. Entries consist of a cartoon submitted as a separate PDF or JPG, but that also must be submitted in context, either as a PDF, JPG or web link of the page on which it was published.

Limit: Four entries per cartoonist.

There will be only one winning entry in this category, i.e., no second or third place winners.

71 OUTSTANDING GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Entries consist of three examples of excellence in graphic design, incorporated in a page layout, original graphic, illustration or other design element created by an individual or design team. For instance, three illustrations by the same artist would qualify as one entry. Two page layouts and an illustration would also qualify as one entry.

Graphics, illustrations, design elements, etc. must be submitted in context, either as a PDF or web link of the page on which they were published.

Limit of one entry per designer or team and two entries per news organization.

There will be only one winner in each Group in this category, i.e., no second- or third place winners.

72 OUTSTANDING VISUAL JOURNALIST

For photographers, videographers and other journalists who report the news visually. Entries must include four to six samples of the nominee's work along with a brief resume and descriptions of his or her journalistic achievements during the contest year. Individual photos, photo essays and website slide shows each represent one sample of a nominee's work.

Limit of two entries per news organization.

There will be only one winner in each Group in this category, i.e., no second or third place winners.

73 OVERALL DESIGN

Recognizes design excellence in print publications. Entries consist of complete issues without preprint ad inserts.

Submit a PDF of four issues, one from each of the following months: May 2025, August 2025, December 2025 and January 2026.

(Magazines published quarterly may submit Spring, Summer and Fall issues from 2025, and the Winter issue from 2026.) Limit one entry per publication.

74 74. PAGE ONE DESIGN / COVER DESIGN

Recognizes design excellence in print publications. Submit a PDF of four page-one designs. One from each of the following months: May 2025 August 2025 December 2025 March 2026 (Magazines published quarterly may submit Spring, Summer and Fall issues from 2025, and the Winter issue from 2026)

Limit one entry per publication.

75 PODCAST OF THE YEAR

Entries consist of three different episodes of a podcast program posted on the content provider's website or hosted channel.

There will be only one winning entry in this category, i.e., no second or third place winners.

76 VIDEO OF THE YEAR

A single video program originally published on the news organization's website or hosted channel. Entries must consist of a link to a single video program.

There will be only one winning entry in the category, i.e. no second or third place winners.

77 VIDEO PROGRAM OR SERIES

Regular program or a special video series on a related theme or topic, available on the news organization's website or hosted channel. Entries consist of links to three different shows of a regular program, or to the first three episodes in a video series. The web pages linked in the entries may include other elements, in addition to video, that contribute to the production.