

## SPECIAL REQUESTS

Remember you must pay the IAA participation fee to participate in the online newspaper IAA competition.

Decisions of the judges are final. Please accept them with good sportsmanship. We strive to secure the finest judges possible and we have confidence in their abilities.

Because of the limited number of entries, we will award a limited number of "Tops in Texas" individual achievement awards for Online News IAAs.

AI-generated or AI-assisted production is not eligible for this contest.

# ONLINE NEWS CONTEST RULES

1. You must submit IAAs by uploading pdfs, jpegs or links to the online entry system. If you have problems uploading files, please contact us at [ILPC@uiltexas.org](mailto:ILPC@uiltexas.org). We will work with schools that have issues.
2. The same entry may not be submitted in the IAA Newspaper contest and the IAA Online Newspaper contest. A piece of work may be entered in only **ONE** ILPC contest.
3. All entries must be the original work of the student staff member and must have been published in the entrant's school online newspaper during the calendar year Feb. 15, 2024 through Feb. 15, 2025. In the photo categories, the student must have taken the picture. **AI-assisted content should not be submitted for this contest.**
4. Online Newspaper IAA entries may not be judged by conferences. We will split school entries into categories as entry numbers dictate.
6. In each grouping (which will be determined by the number of entries), first, second and third place winners will be awarded gold, silver and bronze medals. In some cases, honorable mention ribbons will also be presented. Results will be announced and medals presented at the annual ILPC convention in Austin.
7. All entries become the property of ILPC/UII, may be published and distributed, and cannot be returned.
8. Only one medal will be presented per entry per category. If two persons combine for a category, ILPC will award one medal. Schools may purchase additional medals.

**DEADLINE FOR ENTRY: Feb. 15.**



# ONLINE NEWS INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

## YOU CAN SUBMIT TWO ENTRIES PER CATEGORY FOR #1 THROUGH #25 AND #27

1. NEWS WRITING. An article which presents the latest or most current information on new or already-published information, past events or future events.
2. NEWS FEATURE. An article which presents an angle on a past, present or future news event. Strong news content with a feature angle.
3. EDITORIAL WRITING. An editorial written as statement of staff.
4. SPORTS NEWS STORY. A sports story that focuses on the latest or most current information on new or already-published information, past athletic events or future athletic events. Play-by-play game rehashes should be avoided.
5. SPORTS FEATURE STORY. Feature or personality profile of a sports-related person, issue or event.
6. FEATURE WRITING. Personality profiles or human-interest general features. Emphasis should be rich in detail and liberal use of quotes.
7. ENTERTAINMENT REVIEW. Movie, music, television, theatre or book reviews.
8. ENTERTAINMENT FEATURE. A feature story about a person or persons in the movie, music, television, theatre, restaurant or publishing business. This is a feature — not a review.
9. PHOTO SLIDE SHOW. The entire package: Headlines, copy, photos and captions. The entry will be judged on quality of photography, subject matter and copy.
10. PERSONAL COLUMN. A personal column or a humorous column. First person experience.
11. PERSONAL OPINION COLUMN. Personal opinion, issue-oriented, on a news/feature story.
12. SPORTS COLUMN. Personal opinion sports writing.
13. IN-DEPTH NEWS/FEATURE PACKAGE. This category is for the multiple story coverage of a single issue. Again, emphasis on depth, multiple-sources, local angles. This can be a package from one issue or a series in several issues. Design/photography/art are also considered in this category.
14. COMPUTER ART. Artwork generated on computer that is used in lieu of photographs with intent to enhance any news/feature/sports article. Artwork must be created by students using an art program such as Photoshop, Illustrator, Freehand or something similar. Artwork can be manipulated photos.
15. STUDENT ARTWORK/CARTOON. Non-computer artwork that is used in lieu of photographs with intent to enhance any article intended to make an editorial statement.
16. INFOGRAPHIC/SIDEBAR. Please include story or relevant information with entry. Please circle or highlight the graphic on the page.
17. MULTIMEDIA PACKAGE. News or feature story using video, audio and graphics as the medium. The entries will be judged based on the use of multimedia, including audio, video, slide shows and/or graphics and respect of copyright laws. Entries will also be judged on the quality of reporting and writing and reader/viewer impact.
18. VIDEO STORY. Journalistically sound story presented through video. Entries will be judged on the quality of the video (sound and visual), reporting and writing and reader/viewer impact.
27. PODCAST. An audio story using narration, interviews, natural sounds and music. Entries can be narrative style or host/interview style. One episode per entry. Entries will be judged on content of the story as well as production quality.

## PHOTOGRAPHY: Include caption in the metadata.

19. GENERAL NEWS PHOTOGRAPH. Emphasis on action. Well-cropped, in-focus. No posed shots or portraits.
20. FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH. Human interest photo with emphasis on people in their environment.
21. ENTERTAINMENT PHOTOGRAPH. Human interest photo with emphasis on entertainment.
22. SPORTS ACTION PHOTOGRAPH. Action dominates. Well-cropped, in-focus with excellent tonal quality. Photo should have a central theme with unessential elements deleted.
23. SPORTS FEATURE PHOTOGRAPH. Well-cropped, in-focus with excellent tonal quality. Photo should have a central theme with unessential elements deleted.
24. PORTRAIT. A posed photograph of one or more people, either in a studio setting or in an environment that explains something about the person. The entry should capture a sense of who the people are in the photograph.
25. PHOTO PORTFOLIO. Five photos from one student. If possible, put all photos in one pdf or jpeg.

## SUBMIT ONLY ONE ENTRY PER CATEGORY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

26. HEADLINES. Entry must include five (5) headlines with story. Headlines/story can be from any section of the newspaper.
28. SOCIAL MEDIA. A story produced specifically for audiences on Twitter, Instagram, TikTok or Facebook. One entry may contain multiple links or samples to cover the same story depending on the app used (for example, multiple Twitter threads may cover the same topic or multiple Instagram slides). For entries without a video component, screenshots are acceptable. Elements such as photos should not be submitted in any other category.

**Deadline  
Feb. 15**

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