

# 2022 Student Journalism Awards

October 18, 2021 – February 7, 2022



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## Awards Highlights

- THREE \$500 first place grand prize winner categories
- **NEW PUBLICATION DATE DEADLINES: August 1, 2020 through July 31, 2021**
- Feedback on each entry from industry professionals; winners receive certificates
- Expense paid trip, valued at \$1500, to Portland, OR to meet journalism and communication professionals for winner of Best Single-Story
- Free access to the 2022 CMC workshop sessions to network with journalists, artists, academics and other students.
- Exclusive networking through [CMA Student Awards Facebook group](#)

September 15, 2021

Dear Student:

Allow us to provide you with a professional critique of your work and introduce you to hundreds of journalism and communication professionals.

Whether you are a writer, graphic designer, video specialist, photographer, or a social media expert, our judges view each entry as if it were being submitted to an editor for submission into a publication, and each entry receives a beneficial critique from a judge.

This is the perfect competition for students invested in career planning. Award winners earn recognition that enhances resumes, and sometimes earn internships while still in school. The winner of Best Single Story is eligible for an expense paid trip to the June 2022 Catholic Media Conference, valued at \$1500, with the opportunity to meet and network with journalists and communication professionals.

Entry into the Best Student Publication category is free; all other categories are just \$18. Please check with your organization to find out if funding is available to support your participation.

*"I feel really fortunate to have been able to attend the CMA awards. I met so many inspiring journalists at the banquet who welcomed my family and me with open arms into the ceremony. Because of this opportunity, I was able to meet Ana, a Barry Alumna who offered me the opportunity to become a freelancer with the Florida Catholic. Overall it was a great experience!"*

**Johania Charles, Barry College, Miami, FL**

We hope you accept this opportunity to further your career. We know you'll find the experience rewarding.

Thank you for considering the Catholic Media Association's *Student Journalism Awards*.

Sincerely,



Tim Walter  
Executive Director  
The Catholic Media Association

**Participate ♦ Win ♦ Succeed**

## HIGHLIGHTS

<b>ACCEPTING ENTRIES:</b>	October 18, 2021 – February 7, 2022
<b>WINNER ANNOUNCEMENTS:</b>	April 25, 2022
<b>CATHOLIC MEDIA CONFERENCE:</b>	June 27-June 30, 2022
<b>NEW PUBLICATION DATE DEADLINES:</b>	<b>August 1, 2020 through July 31, 2021</b>

### RECOGNITION:

- **FREE TRIP:** To the first-place winner of BEST SINGLE STORY, category S06a including a certificate, an **all-expense** paid trip to the Catholic Media Conference, valued at \$1500, to meet and network with journalism and communication professionals from across the nation and receive recognition at the Press Awards banquet. Trip includes airfare up to \$500, three hotel nights, and full registration including most meals on site.
- Three individual \$500 grand prize winners are given for the first-place winner in the following categories: S03a, S03b, and S03c.
- Winners receive a first-, second-, or third-place certificate; the university receives a duplicate. Winners are acknowledged at the June Catholic Media Conference, listed in the annual award issue of the *Catholic Journalist*, and posted on the CMA Awards website, providing a historical record of their accomplishment.
- **New** Anyone who enters the program may attend the 2022 CMC workshop sessions at the CMC conference free of charge. Please note, transportation, meals and lodging are not included.

### CATEGORIES:

Three groups of categories recognize emerging talent in thirteen skill sets.

#### PUBLICATIONS

- Design
- Faith
- Media
- Photography
- Media
- Writing

#### Creative Works

- Poetry
- Short Stories
- Reviews
- Essays

#### BROADCAST MEDIA

- Blogs
- Radio
- Television
- You Tube

### Additional Background Information

The Catholic Media Association, founded as the *Catholic Press Association* in 1911, sponsors the *Student Journalism Awards* to promote professional journalism and communication practices. Its 230 publications have a circulation of more than 10 million households. Its 860 members are general managers, editors, writers, graphic designers, production staff, freelance contributors, communication professionals, and advertising specialists.

Instituted to nurture the next generation of Catholic communication professionals, this program is part of a national program accepting over 3000 entries per cycle.

### QUESTIONS

If you have questions about the CMA Student Awards or the Catholic Media Association, we are happy to talk with you. Please email us at [Awards@CatholicMediaAssociation.org](mailto:Awards@CatholicMediaAssociation.org). Our website is [www.catholicpress.org](http://www.catholicpress.org).

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## **CATEGORIES & DESCRIPTIONS**

### **Student Publications**

For Print and Digital Publications

#### **Design**

##### **S01: Best Front Page**

Judging is based on typography, headline weight, compelling use of graphics, and the degree to which the layout draws the eye over the entire page. An entry consists of one PDF file of the front page only (not the entire issue). Only one entry per publication is permitted.

##### **S02: Best Use of Graphics with an Article**

This category focuses on the graphics used specifically on a single page or spread accompanying an article. Judges view the graphics with an eye toward design and how it was used to convey a story or theme and make the page/spread appealing to readers. An entry consists of one PDF file of the page.

#### **Faith-Grand Prize Categories**

##### **S03: Best Presentation of Faith on Campus.**

This category is for original content about faithlife on campus. Judges consider the quality and impact of the submission. An entry consists of one PDF file or URL where the content may be viewed by judges. Video submissions run less than 10 minutes.

**\*Three \$500 grand prize winners. One given to the first-place winner of the three categories: below.**

**S03a: Single Article**

**S03b: Single Photo**

**S03c: Single Video**

#### **Media**

##### **S04: Best use of Multimedia for Storytelling**

Best use of photo galleries, videos, and other online resources to enhance a publication's online presentation of a story or stories. An entry consists of the webpage URL where judges may view the presentation.

#### **Photography**

##### **S05: Best Single Photo**

Photos may be black- and-white or color. This category is separated into two sections for those working with either digital or film formats. Manipulated images may be submitted only if they were identified as such when published. An entry consists of one PDF file containing the page on which the photo was published, and a second PDF file containing an image of the photo by itself.

**S05a: Digital Format**

**S05b: Film Format**

### Writing

#### **S06: Best Writing – Subject/ Topic**

This category emphasizes the skill of the writer covering a topic. Judges critique the quality and conciseness of the work as well as the writer’s ability to convey the message. Photos, charts and illustrations are not considered. An entry consists of one PDF file or URL where the content may be viewed by judges.

**S06a: Feature \*** – For a story covering a group, trend, or event of general interest. Community service, volunteerism, and personality profiles work well in this category. Editorials, essays, reviews and breaking news are excluded.

**S06b: Sports** – For an article, or personality profile of an athlete or sports team.

**S06c: News** – For coverage of a straight news subject or topic originating primarily in the geographical area of the publication.

\* The winning entrant of S06a receives a first-place certificate, and an **expense paid trip** to the Catholic Media Conference valued at \$1500, as outlined on Page 3, Networking.

#### **S07: Best Writing – Series**

This category is for best series published in a university publication. The entry consists of three articles and must be published within the program publication deadline.

Submit a PDF file or URL where articles can be located through the awards website. Publication date must be visible on submission.

#### **S15: Social Justice**

This category features social justice issues, such as human dignity, rights and responsibilities, and solidarity. The work may be from 2021 or cover a span of years, but must be published within the program publication deadline.

An entry consists of one PDF file containing the page(s) on which the article was published.

### General Excellence

#### **S21: Best University Student Publication**

The General Excellence Award recognizes the Best University Student Publication. Judges consider each of the following criteria: selection of stories, originality, quality of writing and headlines, columns, editorials and letters to the editor, quality and appropriateness of art and graphics, and overall design.

Entry consists of a PDF of three consecutive issues of the publication, or a URL where the publications can be viewed.

## *Creative Works*

### **S30: Best Creative Writing**

UPDATED

This category is for the best creative writing piece authored by a student and published in any college or university sanctioned publication or collection of literary works whether in print or digital format. This category may include short stories, poems, essays, and reviews. An entry consists of one PDF file of the page(s) on which the work was published.

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## *Broadcast Media*

### **S41: Current Events Affecting Student Life**

This category, and each subcategory, is for media content pertaining to current local or national events that have a direct impact on student life.

#### **S41a: Blog**

This subcategory is for content posted on an officially sanctioned university or college blog site. An entry consists of permanent URL links for each entry submitted. Three-to five blog entries may be submitted for judges to consider. The URL(s) must be embedded into a PDF document for uploading.

#### **S41b: Radio**

This subcategory is for content broadcast on a university or college radio station. An entry consists of one episode, edited if necessary, to no more than 15 minutes in length. Entries may be uploaded as an MP3 audio file, or as a URL embedded into a PDF document for uploading.

#### **S41c: Television**

This subcategory is for content broadcast on a university or college television station. An entry consists of one episode, edited if necessary, to no more than 15 minutes in length. The URL may direct the judge to a university website or You Tube channel. The URL must be embedded into a PDF document for uploading.

#### **S41d: You Tube Channel**

This subcategory is for content posted on an officially sanctioned university or college You Tube channel. All content is specific to the You Tube channel differentiating it from category S41c for example. An entry consists of one episode, edited if necessary, to no more than 15 minutes in length. The URL must be embedded into a PDF document for uploading.

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The *Student Journalism Awards* recognize the efforts of current students with an interest in journalism and other media. The following criteria are required of all submissions:

- **NEW:** Eligible entries are restricted to work published by a university/college publication or posted on a university/college publication's website **August 1, 2020 through July 31, 2021.**
- Professors/advisors may enter the work of their students. Likewise, student editors may enter the work of their fellow students, as well as their own work.
- Submitters may enter the same work into more than one category, if applicable.
- Entries must be the original work of a student(s) enrolled in an accredited university or college at the time of publication.
  - The student may be full or part-time, either at the graduate or undergraduate level.
  - Submitter must be able to provide proof of enrollment for author(s)/creator(s) upon request.
  - Editing/proofing from a professor or advisor is acceptable as long as it does not affect the viewpoint or style of the student author(s)/creator(s).

### DISQUALIFICATION REASONS

- Plagiarized entries or those excessively influenced by a professor/advisor are disqualified.
- Work published outside of the university/college publication is disqualified.
- Submissions that do not meet all regulations and deadlines are disqualified.

### LACK OF SUBMISSIONS:

If a category receives only one submission, the category is not judged and the submission fee is refunded.

### JUDGING:

Current members of the Catholic Media Association judge the Student Journalism Awards. Judges volunteer their time and are instructed to provide critiques for all submissions for the benefit of student participants. If a judge disqualifies an entry for any reason, the judge is required to inform the CMA's awards coordinator, who informs the submitter.

### BEST SINGLE-STORY WINNER - EXPENSE PAID TRIP PARAMETERS:

The first-place winner of Best Single Story is eligible to attend the Catholic Media Conference, June 27 through June 30, 2022 at the Hilton Downtown Portland. Valued at \$1500, the trip includes:

- Airfare reimbursement up to \$500
- 3-hotel nights
- A full registration
  - Accessibility to all conference sessions
  - Networking opportunities with Young Professionals Group
  - Networking with 300 plus conference attendees
  - Breakfast and lunch each day
  - Award banquet ticket

**NEW:** Anyone who enters into the 2022 program may attend, free of charge, the 2022 CMC **workshop sessions** to network with journalists, artists, academics and other students.

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## SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

### GETTING STARTED:

All entries are submitted digitally through the CMA awards website, <https://catholicpress.secure-platform.com/a/solicitations/42/home>. To start, participants may log into an existing profile from a previous year, or create a new profile. Once logged in you are able to create and edit submissions, and pay for entries.

Please read category descriptions to determine submission requirements for each category. If you have questions about eligibility, submissions, or payment, please visit our [Student Journalism Awards web-page](#). If you need further assistance, please email [Awards@CatholicMediaAssociation.org](mailto:Awards@CatholicMediaAssociation.org)

### CREATING A PROFILE:

To register a new profile, visit the homepage of the awards website and click “Enter the Student Journalism Awards.” Follow the prompts to create a username and password for your account.

**If you participated in the awards program in a previous year, then you already have a profile.** Please enter your email and password to access your profile. If you do not remember your password, you may click [reset password](#) to make a new one.

### CREATING A NEW SUBMISSION:

1. Either create your profile or log into your existing profile.
2. Click “Make Another Application” then “Enter Student Journalism Awards.” You will be prompted to review your past submissions or to begin a new submission.
3. Select “Click here” to begin a new submission. Fill out the form as prompted and click “Save and Next” to continue. You can return to the previous form at any time.
4. At the end of the form, you have a few options:
5. Clicking “Save” and leaving the form saves your submission as “Incomplete.” You may return to the entry later, edit data, and complete the entry.
6. Clicking “Add to Cart” saves your data and puts your submission in your cart. You can return to the entry later and pay for it, edit the data, or remove it from your cart.
7. Entries are only marked “Complete” after you pay for them. Once an entry is marked “Complete,” you will not be able to edit the entry by yourself. Email [Awards@CatholicMediaAssociation.org](mailto:Awards@CatholicMediaAssociation.org) so we can edit the entry for you. **We recommend keeping submissions in your cart until you have created and reviewed all of your submissions.** Doing so will help prevent duplicate, missing, and incorrect entries.
8. You can view submissions that are incomplete, in your cart, and complete by clicking “My Applications.” To edit submissions that are incomplete, click “Edit” in the action column. For entries in your cart, click “Make Changes.” If you need to make changes to a complete entry (an entry that you have paid for), email [Awards@CatholicMediaAssociation.org](mailto:Awards@CatholicMediaAssociation.org). We can edit entries for you up to the submission deadline, February 7, 2022.

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## **ENTRY FEE AND PAYMENT PROCESS**

### **COST OF SUBMISSION:**

- Best Student Publication: Free
- All additional Entries: \$18 per entry \*
- **Payment Deadline:** **February 11, 2022**

**\* Please check-in with your professor or advisor to find out if funding is available to support your participation.**

### **PAYMENT PROCESS**

We accept payment through the awards website by credit card or through invoicing.

1. When you have items in your cart, a direct link to your cart will appear under “My Applications.” Click it to edit submission or pay for your entries.
2. Click the “Checkout” button.
3. Select your method of payment, then click “Process.”
4. In the next screen, you will have the option to print your invoice and submission forms. You will also receive a copy of your invoice and submission forms via email.
  - a. **If your submissions are being funded**, please select paying by check to process the invoice through your organization.
5. **When paying by check** please print a copy of your invoice and include it with your payment, mailed to the address listed below.

### **MAIL PAYMENT TO:**

**CMA Awards Program**  
Catholic Media Association  
205 West Monroe St., Suite 470  
Chicago, IL 60606

### **ENTRY DEADLINE:**

11:59 a.m. CT – Monday, February 7, 2022