

## Welcome to the 2024 Catholic Media Awards

The Catholic Media Awards honor Catholic Media Association members for outstanding work produced in 2023. The awards will be presented at the Catholic Media Conference, scheduled for June 18-21, 2024, in Atlanta. Winners will be announced in *The Catholic Journalist*, accompanied by comments from the judges, and will also be featured on the CMA website and social media platforms.

### New for 2024

- Unless otherwise specified, entries must be the work of someone on the staff of, or a freelance contributor to, a CMA member organization.
- Hard copies are NO longer required for print submissions. You will simply upload a PDF of the work to the submission form.
- To save time, you may duplicate your submission form. Once the entry is duplicated it copies all information. Then you only need to select a new category AND make sure all files needed are appropriately updated.

### General Information

#### Key Dates

- Open Submission Period: Nov. 1, 2023 - Jan. 31, 2024 at 11:59 p.m. CT
- Extension Period: Feb. 1-7, 2024 at 11:59 am CT
- Payment deadline: Feb. 9, 2024

#### Entry Fees

- Open Submission Period: \$38 per entry
- Extension Period: \$48 per entry

#### Additional Info

- All entries are for work published in 2023.
- All members must be in good standing as of March 31, 2024.
- Unless otherwise specified, entries must be the work of someone on the staff of, or a freelance contributor to, a CMA member organization.
- Hard copies are no longer required for print submissions. You will simply upload a PDF of the work to the submission form.
- To save time, you may duplicate your submission form. Once the entry is duplicated it copies all information. Then you only need to select a new category and make sure all files needed are appropriately updated.

### **Free Entry**

- Each CMA Member Organization or Freelance Member is eligible for one free entry per year, when submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST on Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024.
- Free entry may be your only entry.
- If your organization also has a publication / communication office that also is a CMA member, please determine which one will redeem the free entry.
- Free entry is automatically added to your cart during the regular submission period. Please note, there is only one free entry per organization.
- If someone else on your staff has already used the free entry prior to you using it, you will be invoiced for the difference once the program closes in February.

### **Judging**

Entries are judged by selected professionals knowledgeable about Catholic media, including faculty from prominent Catholic journalism schools. Our judges bring a wealth of experience in various media, ensuring a fair and informed evaluation of each entry, and are committed to maintaining the highest standards of integrity throughout the evaluation process.

## Eligibility Requirements

The Catholic Media Awards is a recognition program for CMA members. The following eligibility requirements apply:

1. Entries must be from a Member Organization or Freelance Member in good standing. Member dues must be paid by March 31, 2024 to be eligible for an award. No refunds offered after judging.
2. Entries must be the original work of a Member Organization or Freelance Member. Include bylines/credits on all submissions. Plagiarized or incorrectly credited entries are grounds for disqualification.
3. Member Organizations may submit the work of any employee or Freelance Member. The author/creator need not be a Staff Member or Freelance Member.
4. Freelance Members may enter all categories. Your work must appear in the print edition of, on the website of, or in promotion of a Member Organization.
5. To avoid duplicate entries, we ask Freelance Members to consult with the Member Organization that printed the material before submitting it. Please confirm that the Member Organization is not submitting the same work in the same category as you.
6. Only entries published in calendar year 2023 are accepted.

## Reasons for Elimination or Disqualification

- Less than two submissions per category: Every category requires at least two submissions, by different entrants, to qualify for evaluation. Under this scenario we will refund your entry fee, if this was not your free entry.
- Entry does not meet submission requirements: Entries must be submitted properly and include all required components to be evaluated by the judges. Please check the category descriptions to make sure your entries are correct.

## Section Overview

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## Quick Look

The Quick Look chart is designed to let you find entry categories by type instead of number. Use the category number (e.g. A1111) to find the detailed description and to submit your entry in the award software.

Type	Number	Title	Page	Status
<b>New for 2024</b>				
<b>Individual Excellence</b>	<b>A1191</b>	<b>Podcaster of the Year</b>	9 of 23	<b>NEW 2024</b>
<b>Multimedia</b>	<b>AW352</b>	<b>Best Video -- Hot Topic - The Eucharistic Revival</b>	13 of 23	<b>NEW 2024</b>
Multimedia Multimedia	AW340a AW340b	Best Video - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feature - Diocesan and National News Organization</li> <li>• Feature - Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies</li> </ul>	10 of 23	<b>NEW 2024</b>
Multimedia Multimedia	AW341a AW341b	Best Video - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• News - Diocesan and National News Organization</li> <li>• News - Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies</li> </ul>	10 of 23	<b>NEW 2024</b>
Multimedia Multimedia	AW342a AW342b	Best Video - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pro-Life Activities - Diocesan and National News Organization</li> <li>• Pro-Life Activities - Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies</li> </ul>	11 of 23	<b>NEW 2024</b>
Multimedia Multimedia	AW343a AW343b	Best Video - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Religious Life Activities - Diocesan and National News Organization</li> <li>• Religious Life Activities - Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies</li> </ul>	11 of 23	<b>NEW 2024</b>
Multimedia Multimedia	AW344a AW344b	Best Video - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Justice Issues - Diocesan and National News Organization</li> <li>• Social Justice Issues - Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies</li> </ul>	11 of 23	<b>NEW 2024</b>
Multimedia Multimedia	AW345a AW345b	Best Video - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explainer - Diocesan and National News Organization</li> <li>• Explainer - Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies</li> </ul>	11 of 23	<b>NEW 2024</b>
Multimedia Multimedia	AW346a AW346b	Best Video - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Clergy - Diocesan and National News Organization</li> <li>• The Clergy - Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies</li> </ul>	11 of 23	<b>NEW 2024</b>
Multimedia Multimedia	AW347a AW347b	Best Video - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ordination - Diocesan and National News Organization</li> <li>• Ordination - Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies</li> </ul>	11 of 23	<b>NEW 2024</b>
Multimedia	AW348a	Best Video - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Panel Discussion - Diocesan and National News Organization</li> </ul>	11 of 23	<b>NEW 2024</b>

Multimedia	AW348b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Panel Discussion – Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies</li> </ul>		
Multimedia	AW349a	Best Video – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Catechesis – Diocesan and National News Organization</li> <li>Catechesis – Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies</li> </ul>	11 of 23	<b>NEW 2024</b>
Multimedia	AW349b			
Multimedia	AW350a	Best Video – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hot Topic – Eucharistic Revival –Diocesan and National News Organization</li> <li>Hot Topic – Eucharistic Revival – Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies</li> </ul>	11 of 23	<b>NEW 2024</b>
Multimedia	AW350b			
Multimedia	AW362	Best Multimedia Package -- Hot Topic: The Eucharistic Revival	16 of 23	<b>NEW 2024</b>
Multimedia	AW383a	Best Use of Video on Social Media – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Liturgical Season- Diocesan and National News Organizations</li> <li>Liturgical Season- Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies</li> </ul>	16 of 23	<b>NEW 2024</b>
Multimedia	AW383b			
Multimedia	AW384a	Best Use of Video on Social Media – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing Series – Diocesan and National News Organizations</li> <li>Ongoing Series – Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies</li> </ul>	16 of 23	<b>NEW 2024</b>
Multimedia	AW384b			
Multimedia	AW385a	Best Use of Video on Social Media – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Clergy – Diocesan and National News Organizations</li> <li>The Clergy – Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies</li> </ul>	16 of 23	<b>NEW 2024</b>
Multimedia	AW385B			
<b>Individual Excellence</b>				
Individual Excellence	AI111	Advertising Business/Marketing Professional of the Year		
Individual Excellence	AI121	Communications Director of the Year		
Individual Excellence	AI131a AI131b	Editor of the Year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>English</li> <li>Spanish</li> </ul>		
Individual Excellence	AI141	Graphic Artist/Designer of the Year		
Individual Excellence	AI151	Multimedia Journalist of the Year		
Individual Excellence	AI161	Photographer of the Year		
Individual Excellence	AI171	Social Media Professional of the Year		
Individual Excellence	AI175a AI171b	Writer of the Year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>English</li> <li>Spanish</li> </ul>		
Individual Excellence	AI181	Videographer/Video Producer of the Year – Diocesan and National News organizations		
Individual Excellence	AI182	Videographer/Video Producer of the Year – Radio, Television Station or Film Companies		

Individual Excellence	AI191	Podcaster of the Year
<b>Multimedia</b>		
Multimedia Multimedia	AW340a AW340b	Best Video - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Feature - Diocesan and National News Organization</li> <li>● Feature - Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies</li> </ul>
Multimedia Multimedia	AW341a AW341b	Best Video - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● News - Diocesan and National News Organization</li> <li>● News - Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies</li> </ul>
Multimedia Multimedia	AW342a AW342b	Best Video - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Pro-Life Activities - Diocesan and National News Organization</li> <li>● Pro-Life Activities - Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies</li> </ul>
Multimedia Multimedia	AW343a AW343b	Best Video - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Religious Life Activities - Diocesan and National News Organization</li> <li>● Religious Life Activities - Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies</li> </ul>
Multimedia Multimedia	AW344a AW344b	Best Video - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Social Justice Issues - Diocesan and National News Organization</li> <li>● Social Justice Issues - Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies</li> </ul>
Multimedia Multimedia	AW345a AW345b	Best Video - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Explainer - Diocesan and National News Organization</li> <li>● Explainer - Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies</li> </ul>
Multimedia Multimedia	AW346a AW346b	Best Video - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Clergy - Diocesan and National News Organization</li> <li>● The Clergy - Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies</li> </ul>
Multimedia Multimedia	AW347a AW347b	Best Video - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ordination - Diocesan and National News Organization</li> <li>● Ordination - Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies</li> </ul>
Multimedia Multimedia	AW348a AW348b	Best Video - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Panel Discussion - Diocesan and National News Organization</li> <li>● Panel Discussion - Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies</li> </ul>
Multimedia Multimedia	AW349a AW349b	Best Video - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Catechesis - Diocesan and National News Organization</li> <li>● Catechesis - Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies</li> </ul>
		Best Video -

Multimedia	AW350a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hot Topic – Eucharistic Revival –Diocesan and National News Organization</li> <li>Hot Topic – Eucharistic Revival – Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies</li> </ul>
Multimedia	AW350b	
Multimedia	AW361a	<b>Best Multimedia Packages</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Best Multimedia Package for Feature</li> <li>Best Multimedia Package for News</li> <li>Best Multimedia Package on Pro-life Activities</li> <li>Best Multimedia Package for Depiction of Religious Life</li> <li>Best Multimedia Package – Social Justice Issues</li> <li>Best Multimedia Package – Seasonal Issue</li> <li>Best Multimedia Package – Violence in Our Communities</li> </ul>
Multimedia	AW361b	
Multimedia	AW361c	
Multimedia	AW361d	
Multimedia	AW361e	
Multimedia	AW361f	
Multimedia	AW361g	
Multimedia	AW362	Best Multimedia Package -- Hot Topic: The Eucharistic Revival <span style="float: right;"><b>NEW</b></span>
Multimedia	AW371	Best Multimedia Package Series
Multimedia	AW381a	Best Use of Video on Social Media – Diocesan Communications
Multimedia	AW38b	Best Use of Video on Social Media – News Organizations
<b>Social Media</b>		
Social Media	AW511	Best Social Media Campaign
Social Media	AW541	Best Use of Social Media for Breaking News
Social Media	AW551	Best Use of Photos in Social Media
Social Media	AW552	Best Use of Graphics in Social Media
Social Media	AW561a	<b>Best Podcast</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Best Podcast – Topical News</li> <li>Best Podcast – Social Justice Issues</li> <li>Best Podcast – Expression of Faith</li> </ul>
Social Media	AW561b	
Social Media	AW561c	
Social Media	AW571	Best Use of Live Video in Social Media
<b>Website</b>		
Website	AW711a	<b>Best Blogs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Best Blog – Topical News</li> <li>Best Blog – Social Justice Issues</li> <li>Best Blog – Expression of Faith</li> </ul>
Website	AW711b	
Website	AW711c	
Website	AW731a	<b>Best Online Content Not Published in Print</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Best Online Content Not Published in Print – Photo Content</li> <li>Best Online Content Not Published in Print – Feature</li> <li>Best Online Content Not Published in Print – News</li> </ul>
Website	AW731b	
Website	AW731c	
Website	AW751a	<b>Best Web Sites -</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Best Website – Diocesan</li> <li>Best Website – General Publisher</li> <li>Best Website – Magazine or Newsletter</li> <li>Best Website – Newspaper</li> <li>Best Website – Spanish Publication</li> </ul>
Website	AW75b	
Website	AW751c	
Website	AW75d	
Website	AW751e	
Website	AW771	Best Web and Print Package
Website	AW772	Best E-Newsletter

## Categories & Descriptions

### Individual Excellence

### **A111: Advertising Business/Marketing Professional of the Year**

Entry should exemplify the high quality, professionalism, and consistency of the nominated individual's work during 2023. For example, did they develop tools or strategies to better manage operations, to improve customer service, to build relationships with clients and readers?

An entry consists of **three to five** samples of the individual's efforts during 2023. These samples need not be related to each other. While it is not necessary for the samples to have been printed in a CMA publication, each must have been used by a member organization in some way. A letter may be submitted to explain circumstances that made the individual's success more notable. The letter should be used to describe an entrant's contribution to the samples submitted.

Please upload a PDF file containing three to five samples through the awards website. You may also submit a PDF file or a Word Document listing URLs if the items are available online.

### **A1121: Communications Director of the Year**

This category recognizes an individual for exemplary service as the best Communications Director professional representing a general publisher or diocese.

Entry will consist of a nomination letter as well as a URL of the publisher's or diocesan website that the judges may view. The letter should be used to describe an entrant's contributions, qualities, and professionalism in the ongoing communication efforts.

### **A1131a: Editor of the Year (English)**

This category recognizes an individual for exemplary service to CMA publications or Publisher Members during 2023. Entrants must be on the staff of, or contribute as a freelancer to a CMA member publication. Judging will focus on demonstrated talent, creativity, thoroughness, and effectiveness.

An entry consists of a letter that describes the entrant's contributions, qualities, professionalism that made the nominee's success notable. You **may** submit **three to five** samples of the individual's efforts during 2023 on a PDF file or URLs if the samples are online. A letter must be included to describe an entrant's contributions, qualities, and professionalism in the ongoing communication efforts.

### **A1131b: Editor of the Year (Spanish)**

This category recognizes an individual for exemplary service to CMA publication(s) or Publisher Members during 2023. Entrants must be on the staff of, or contribute as a freelancer to, a CMA member publication. Judging will focus on demonstrated talent, creativity, thoroughness, and effectiveness. To be eligible for this category, samples must have been published by a CMA publication and originally written in Spanish. Samples



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originally written in English and translated into Spanish are not eligible. Samples from an English language publication with a Spanish language section are eligible.

An entry consists of **three to five** samples of the individual's efforts during 2023. These samples need not be related to each other. A letter may be submitted to explain circumstances that made the individual's success more notable. The letter should be used to describe an entrant's contribution to the samples submitted. Writers who have editor responsibilities for publications should upload a PDF file containing **three to five** samples through the awards website. You may also submit a PDF file or a Word Document listing URLs if the samples are available online.

### **AI141: Graphic Artist/Designer of the Year**

This category recognizes an individual for exemplary service to CMA publication(s) or Publisher Members during 2023. Entrants must be on the staff of, or a freelancer contributor to, a CMA member publication. Judging will focus on demonstrated talent, creativity, thoroughness, and effectiveness.

An entry consists of **three to five** graphics/designs. These samples need not be related to each other. A letter may be submitted to explain circumstances that made the individual's success more notable. The letter should be used to describe an entrant's contribution to the samples submitted. You may also submit a PDF file or a Word Document listing URLs if the graphics/designs are available online.

### **AI151: Multimedia Journalist of the Year**

This category recognizes an individual for exemplary service to CMA media or Publisher Members during 2023. Judging will focus on demonstrated talent, creativity, thoroughness, and effectiveness.

An entry consists of **three to five** articles, photos and videos. For this multimedia category, you must submit examples of the following three: text, photos, and videos. These samples need not be related to each other. A letter may be submitted to explain circumstances that made the individual's success more notable. The letter should describe the entrant's contribution to the samples submitted. You may also submit a PDF file or a Word Document listing URLs if the items are available online.

Entries must have components of narrative text, photo(s), and video(s). The entrant must have created **all three**. In addition, entries may contain other forms of media, such as podcasts, graphics animation video, and movable graphics, but the entry must demonstrate excellence in writing, photography, and videography in order to compete in this category.

### **AI161: Photographer of the Year**

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This category recognizes an individual for exemplary service to CMA publication(s) or Publisher Members during 2023. Judging will focus on demonstrated talent, creativity, thoroughness, and effectiveness.

An entry consists of **eight to ten** photos. These samples need not be related to each other. A letter may be submitted to explain circumstances that made the individual's success more notable. The letter should describe the entrant's contribution to the samples submitted. You may also submit a PDF file or a Word Document listing URLs if the photos are available online.

### **All 71: Social Media Professional of the Year**

This category recognizes an individual for exemplary service to CMA publication(s) or Publisher Members during 2023. Judging will focus on demonstrated talent, creativity, thoroughness, and effectiveness.

An entry consists of a letter describing the entrant's qualities and contributions to the organization as well as examples of social media campaigns, statistics reflecting growth, engagement or reach, or documentation of other social media-related contributions.

### **All 75a: Writer of the Year (English)**

This category recognizes an individual for exemplary service to CMA publication(s) or Publisher Members during 2023. Judging will focus on demonstrated talent, creativity, thoroughness, and effectiveness.

An entry consists of **three to five** writing samples. These samples need not be related to each other. A letter may be submitted to explain circumstances that made the individual's success more notable. The letter should describe the entrant's contribution to the samples submitted. You may also submit a PDF file or a Word Document listing URLs if the samples are available online.

### **All 75b: Writer of the Year (Spanish)**

This category recognizes a writer for exemplary service to CMA members during 2023. Entrants must be on the staff of, or a freelance contributor to, a CMA-member publication. Judging will focus on demonstrated talent, creativity, thoroughness, and effectiveness. To be eligible for this category, samples must have been published by a CMA publication and originally written in Spanish. Samples originally written in English and translated into Spanish are not eligible. Samples from an English-language publication with a Spanish-language section are eligible.

An entry consists of **three to five** writing samples. These samples need not be related to each other. A letter may be submitted to explain circumstances that made the individual's success more notable. The letter should describe the entrant's contribution to the samples

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submitted. You may also submit a PDF file or a Word Document listing URLs if the samples are available online.

**AI181: Videographer/Video Producer of the Year – Diocesan and National News Organizations** **NEW**

This category recognizes an individual for exemplary service to CMA members during 2023. Entrants must be on the staff of, or a freelance contributor to, a CMA diocesan or national news organization. Judging will focus on demonstrated talent, creativity, thoroughness, and effectiveness. Judges will verify that a person works for a diocesan or national news organization. **If you work for a radio, television/film company, please enter AI182.**

An entry consists of **three to five** videos. These samples need not be related to each other. A letter may be submitted to explain circumstances that made the individual's success more notable. The letter should describe the entrant's contribution to the samples submitted. You may also submit a PDF file or a Word Document listing URLs if the videos are available online.

**AI182: Videographer/Video Producer of the Year – Radio, Television Station or Film Companies** **NEW**

This category recognizes an individual for exemplary service to CMA members during 2023. Entrants must be on the staff of, or a freelance contributor to, a CMA radio, television station or film company. Judging will focus on demonstrated talent, creativity, thoroughness, and effectiveness. Judges will verify that a person works for a radio, television or film company. **If you work for a Diocese or national news organization, please enter AI181.**

An entry consists of **three to five** videos. These samples need not be related to each other. A letter may be submitted to explain circumstances that made the individual's success more notable. The letter should describe the entrant's contribution to the samples submitted. You may also submit a PDF file or a Word Document listing URLs if the videos are available online.

## Multimedia

### **AW331: Best Illustration with Graphic Design or Art**

Publisher and Freelance Members may enter this category. An entry consists of the URL of the webpage where judges may view the presentation or enter one PDF file of the page on which the illustration was published.

Entries are an illustration originating with the publication of an article, story, or poem.

### **AW332: Best Photo Gallery or Slideshow**

**UPDATED**

Best use of photo galleries or slide shows that are freestanding and **not** used to enhance a publication's online presentation of a written story or stories.

### **AW340: Best Video – Feature**

**UPDATED**

This category is for a video that showcases a feature story. An entry consists of the URL of the webpage where judges may view the presentation. Please choose a subcategory that best fits your entry type. Judges will review entrants' credentials to confirm correct entry placement.

- AW340a: Diocesan and National News Organizations
- AW340b: Radio, Television Stations, and Film Companies

### **AW341: Best Video – News**

**UPDATED**

This category is for a video that showcases a news story. An entry consists of the URL of the webpage where judges may view the presentation. Judges will review entrants' credentials to confirm correct entry placement.

- AW341a: Diocesan and National News Organizations
- AW341b: Radio, Television Stations, and Film Companies

### **AW342: Best Video – Pro-life Activities**

**UPDATED**

This category is for a video that features pro-life activism or action. An entry consists of the URL of the webpage where judges may view the presentation. Please choose a subcategory that best fits your entry type. Judges will review entrants' credentials to confirm correct entry placement. Please choose the appropriate subcategory for the entry.

- AW342a: Diocesan and National News Organizations
- AW342b: Radio, Television Stations, and Film Companies

**AW343: Best Video – Religious Life****UPDATED**

This category is for a video that displays religious life. An entry consists of the URL of the webpage where judges may view the presentation. Please choose the appropriate subcategory for the entry. Judges will review entrants' credentials to confirm correct entry placement.

- AW343a: Diocesan and National News Organizations
- AW343b: Radio, Television Stations, and Film Companies

**AW344: Best Video – Social Justice Issues****UPDATED**

This category is for a video about one of the seven themes of Catholic social teaching (based on the USCCB teachings).

Eligible topics:

- Call to Family, Community, and Participation
- Care for God's Creation
- Dignity and Rights of the Workers
- Life and Dignity of the Human Person
- Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
- Solidarity

An entry consists of the URL of the webpage where judges may view the presentation. Please choose the appropriate subcategory for the entry. Judges will review entrants' credentials to confirm correct entry placement.

- AW344a: Diocesan and National News Organizations
- AW344b: Radio, Television Stations, and Film Companies

**AW345: Best Video – explainer****UPDATED**

This category is for a video, animation, or movable graphics that explains a concept or topic in a simple, engaging, and compelling way. It is both informational and educational and can include demonstrations or providing facts about given topics. An entry consists of the URL of the webpage where judges may view the presentation. Please choose the appropriate subcategory for the entry. Judges will review entrants' credentials to confirm correct entry placement.

- AW345a: Diocesan and National News Organizations
- AW345b: Radio, Television Stations, and Film Companies

**AW346: Best Video – The Clergy****UPDATED**

This category is for a video that features the complexities or uniqueness of members of the clergy. An entry consists of the URL of the webpage where judges may view the presentation. Please choose a subcategory that best fits your entry type. Judges will review entrants' credentials to confirm correct entry placement.

- AW346a: Diocesan and National News Organizations
- AW346b: Radio, Television Stations, and Film Companies

**AW347: Best Video – Ordination****UPDATED**

This category is for a video that features the complexities or uniqueness of members of the clergy. An entry consists of the URL of the webpage where judges may view the presentation. Please choose a subcategory that best fits your entry type. Judges will review entrants' credentials to confirm correct entry placement.

- AW347a: Diocesan and National News Organizations
- AW347b: Radio, Television Stations, and Film Companies

**AW348: Best Video – Panel Discussion****UPDATED**

This category is for a video that features a panel discussion about a specific topic. An entry consists of the URL of the webpage where judges may view the presentation. Please choose a subcategory that best fits your entry type. Judges will review entrants' credentials to confirm correct entry placement.

- AW348a: Diocesan and National News Organizations
- AW348b: Radio, Television Stations, and Film Companies

**AW349: Best Video – Catechesis****UPDATED**

This category is for a video that conveys an aspect of faith. It's both informational and educational. An entry consists of the URL of the webpage where judges may view the presentation. Please choose a subcategory that best fits your entry type. Judges will review entrants' credentials to confirm correct entry placement.

- AW349a: Diocesan and National News Organizations
- AW349b: Radio, Television Stations, and Film Companies

**AW350: Best Video – The Eucharistic Revival****NEW**

This category is for coverage of a hot topic, in this case, the National Eucharistic Revival taking place from 2022 to 2025 in the United States. You can use the link [here](#) to learn more information about the movement. An entry consists of the URL of the webpage where judges may view the presentation. Please choose the subcategory that best fits your entry type. Judges will review entrants' credentials to confirm correct entry placement.

- AW350a: Diocesan and National News Organizations
- AW350b: Radio, Television Stations, and Film Companies

**AW361a: Best Multimedia Package – Feature**

This category is for a webpage that showcases a feature story that contains at least one of each of the following: written articles, photos and videos. All elements must be related to the same subject.

An entry consists of one URL where judges can view all online elements.

**AW361b: Best Multimedia Package – News**

This category is for a webpage that showcases a news story that contains at least one of each of the following: written articles, photos, and videos. All elements must be related to the same subject.

An entry consists of one URL where judges can view all online elements.

**AW361c: Best Multimedia Package – Pro-Life Activities**

This category is for a webpage that showcases a story depicting pro-life activities that contains at least one of each of the following: written articles, photos, and videos. All elements must be related to the same subject.

An entry consists of one URL where judges can view all online elements.

**AW361d: Best Multimedia Package – Depiction of Religious Life**

This category is for a webpage that showcases a story depicting religious life that contains at least one of each of the following: written articles, photos, and videos. All elements must be related to the same subject.

An entry consists of **one** URL where judges can view all online elements.

**AW361e: Best Multimedia Package – Social Justice Issues**

This category is for a multimedia package about one of the seven themes of Catholic social teaching (based on the USCCB teaching).

Eligible topics:

- Call to Family, Community, and Participation
- Care for God's Creation
- Dignity and Rights of the Workers
- Life and Dignity of the Human Person
- Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
- Solidarity

The entry must contain **at least one of each of the following**: written articles, photos, and videos. All elements must be related to the same subject. An entry consists of **one** URL where judges can view all online elements.

### **AW361f: Best Multimedia Package – Seasonal**

This category is for a multimedia package about any liturgical season (Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter) or secular holiday (Fourth of July, Mother's Day, etc.) The entry must contain at least one of each of the following: written articles, photos and videos. All elements must be related to the same subject.

An entry consists of **one** URL where judges can view all online elements.

### **AW361g: Best Multimedia Package – Violence in Our Communities**

This category is for a webpage that showcases coverage of violence involving law enforcement, school shootings, or other incidents of violence in the news, that contains at least one of each of the following: written text, photos, and videos. All elements must be related to the same subject.

An entry consists of **one** URL of the webpage where judges may view the presentation.

### **AW362: Best Multimedia Package – The Eucharistic Revival**

**NEW**

This category is for coverage of a hot topic, in this case, the National Eucharistic Revival taking place from 2022 to 2025 in the U.S. You can use the link [here](#) to learn more information about the movement.

An entry consists of the URL of the webpage where judges may view the presentation.

### **AW371: Best Multimedia Package Series**



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This category is for web pages that showcase a series of stories on a single topic. Each story should contain all of the following elements: written articles, photos, videos, and must contain at least **three** segments.

An entry consists of URLs where judges can view all online elements. Though a series may contain many parts, entrants are asked to submit **three to five** segments that will give judges the best overview of the complete series.

### **AW381: Best Use of Video on Social Media – Diocesan Communications**

This category is for prerecorded video specifically intended for use on social media platforms by diocesan or archdiocesan communications departments. The video may cover either news or feature story, and must have been published on social media.

An entry consists of a link to the published video on a social media platform, and may include a letter explaining more about the story, video production methods, and why the particular social media platform was chosen.

### **AW382: Best Use of Video on Social Media - News Organization**

This category is for prerecorded video specifically intended for use on social media platforms by news organizations. The video may cover either news or feature story, and must have been published on social media.

An entry consists of a link to the published video on a social media platform, and may include a letter explaining more about the story, video production methods, and why the particular social media platform was chosen.

### **AW383: Best Use of Video on Social Media – Liturgical Season** **NEW**

This category is for prerecorded video specifically intended for use on social media platforms. The video may cover either news or feature story, and must have been published on social media.

An entry consists of a link to the published video on a social media platform, and may include a letter explaining more about the story, video production methods, and why the particular social media platform was chosen. Please choose the subcategory that best suits your work.

- AW383a: Diocesan and National News Organizations
- AW383b: Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies

**AW384: Best Use of Video on Social Media – Ongoing Series****NEW**

This category is for prerecorded video specifically intended for use on social media platforms. The video may cover either news or feature story, and must have been published on social media.

An entry consists of a link to the published video on a social media platform, and may include a letter explaining more about the story, video production methods, and why the particular social media platform was chosen. Please choose the appropriate subcategory for the entry.

- AW384a: Diocesan and National News Organizations
- AW384b: Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies

**AW385: Best Use of Video on Social Media – The Clergy****NEW**

This category is for prerecorded video specifically intended for use on social media platforms by diocesan or archdiocesan communications departments. The video may cover either news or feature story, and must have been published on social media.

An entry consists of a link to the published video on a social media platform, and may include a letter explaining more about the story, video production methods, and why the particular social media platform was chosen. Please choose the appropriate subcategory for the entry..

- AW385a: Diocesan and National News Organizations
- AW385b: Radio, Television Stations and Film Companies

## Social Media

### **AW511: Best Social Media Campaign**

This category is for a prolonged social media campaign on a particular topic or theme that resulted in engagement, reach, and genuine movement on social media platforms.

An entry consists of a written description of the objectives and goals that led to the implementation of the campaign or initiative, and demonstration of the campaign's effectiveness with statistics on reach and engagement. Submissions must also include links to a variety of **two to eight** posts across social media, as well as any hashtags unique to the campaign. Please choose the subcategory that best suits your work.

- AW511a. Liturgical Seasons
- AW511b. The Eucharistic Revival

### **AW541: Best Use of Social Media for Breaking News**

This category is for social media coverage of a major news event, using one or more social media platforms to engage viewers, and deepen their experience of the event.

An entry consists of **two to eight** posts across social media that communicate various aspects of a breaking news story as it unfolds. Submissions should include at least two links to the posts, and may include a letter explaining how coverage was executed and why particular media was chosen.

### **AW551: Best Use of Photos in Social Media**

This category is for a photo or photos published on a social media platform, using imagery within social media to communicate a story or a message.

An entry consists of links to **two to eight** posts where the photo or photos were shared. Submissions may include a letter explaining more about the photo(s) and why the particular social media platform was chosen.

### **AW552: Best Use of Graphics in Social Media**

This category is for a graphic or graphics published on a social media platform, using original graphic design within social media to communicate a story or a message.

An entry consists of links to **two to eight** posts where the graphic or graphics were shared. Submissions may include a letter explaining more about the graphic(s) and why the particular social media platform was chosen.

### **AW561a: Best Podcast – Topical News**

This category is for a podcast that features news items topical in that particular news cycle.

An entry consists of the URL of the webpage where judges may download and listen to a podcast episode(s). Submission includes **one to three** podcast episodes. Submissions should include a letter with a podcast description along with the one to three episode titles.

### **AW561b: Best Podcast – Social Justice Issues**

This category is for a podcast that features a topic (or topics) on social justice issues. An entry consists of the URL of the webpage where judges may download and listen to a podcast episode(s). Submission includes **one to three** podcast episodes.

Submissions should include a letter with a podcast description along with the one to three episode titles.

Eligible topics:

- Call to Family, Community, and Participation
- Care for God's Creation
- Dignity and Rights of the Workers
- Life and Dignity of the Human Person
- Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
- Solidarity

### **AW561c: Best Podcast – Expression of Faith**

This category is for a podcast that features a topic or topics on issues of faith. An entry consists of the URL of the webpage where judges may download and listen to a podcast episode(s). Submission includes **one to three** podcast episodes. Submissions should include a letter with a podcast description along with the one-to-three-episode titles.

### **AW571: Best Use of Live Video in Social Media**

This category is for live video created within a social media platform, providing coverage of an event or story as it unfolds.

An entry consists of a link to the published live video on a social media platform, and **may** include a letter explaining more about the story, video production methods, and why the particular social media platform was chosen.

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## Website

### **AW71 1a: Best Blog – Topical News**

This category is for blogs that feature news items topical in that particular news cycle. Publisher and Freelance Members may enter this category. A blog may be entered into more than one subcategory except where otherwise instructed.

An entry consists of the blog’s permanent URL. Three to five blog entries may be entered for judges to consider.

### **AW71 1b: Best Blog – Social Justice Issues**

This category is for blogs that feature a topic or topics on social justice issues. Publisher and Freelance Members may enter this category. A blog may be entered into more than one subcategory except where indicated otherwise.

Eligible topics:

- Call to Family, Community, and Participation
- Care for God's Creation
- Dignity and Rights of the Workers
- Life and Dignity of the Human Person
- Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
- Solidarity

An entry consists of the blog’s permanent URL. Three to five blog entries may be entered for judges to consider.

### **AW71 1c: Best Blog – Expression of Faith**

This category is for blogs that feature a topic or topics on issues of faith. Publisher and Freelance Members may enter this category. A blog may be entered into more than one category except where otherwise instructed.

An entry consists of the blog’s permanent URL. Three to five blog entries may be entered for judges to consider.

### **AW731: Best Online Content Not Published in Print – Photo**

This category is for photo content posted on a publisher's website. Content that also appears in the print publication is not eligible.

An entry consists of **three to five** photographs covering the same event or topic. The photos may appear either alongside an article or in an independent photo gallery on the publication's website. URLs may be submitted where judges can view the news content online.

If more than one URL is being submitted, please list them in a PDF or Word Document and upload them into the entry field that allows file uploads.

### **AW732: Best Online Content Not Published in Print – Feature**

This category is for photo content posted on a publisher's website. Content that also appears in the print publication is not eligible.

An entry consists of **three to five** photographs covering the same event or topic. The photos may appear either alongside an article or in an independent photo gallery on the publication's website. URLs may be submitted where judges can view the news content online.

If more than one URL is being submitted, please list them in a PDF or Word Document and upload them into the entry field that allows file uploads.

### **AW733: Best Online Content Not Published in Print – News**

This category is for photo content posted on a publisher's website. Content that also appears in the print publication is not eligible.

An entry consists of **three to five** photographs covering the same event or topic. The photos may appear either alongside an article or in an independent photo gallery on the publication's website. URLs may be submitted where judges can view the news content online.

If more than one URL is being submitted, please list them in a PDF or Word Document and upload them into the entry field that allows file uploads.

### **AW751a: Best Website – Diocesan**

The diocesan communication director and diocesan publication (if one exists) must be CMA members for the website to be eligible for this category. Judging will focus on overall quality of site content and graphics, as well as effectiveness in meeting site objectives as stated by the entrant.

An entry consists of the website's URL and a written description of site objectives. If multiple URLs are being submitted, please list them in a PDF or Word Document and upload them into the entry field that allows file uploads.

**AW751b: Best Website – General Publisher**

Website must be from a CMA General Publisher Member. E-books and digital publications (i.e., e-magazines) are not eligible. Judging will be on overall quality of site content and graphics, as well as effectiveness in meeting website objectives as stated by the entrant.

An entry consists of the URL of the website and a description of site objectives.

**AW751c: Best Website – Magazine**

The website must be the site of CMA member publication. No e-magazines may be submitted. Newsletter websites may be entered in this category. Judging will be on overall quality of site content and graphics, as well as effectiveness in meeting site objectives as stated by the entrant.

An entry consists of the URL of the website and a written description of site objectives.

**AW751d: Best Website – Newspaper**

The website must be the site of a CMA member publication. No e-newspaper publications may be submitted. Judging will be on overall quality of site content and graphics, as well as effectiveness in meeting site objectives as stated by the entrant.

An entry consists of the URL of the website and a written description of site objectives.

**AW751e: Best Website – Spanish Publication**

The website must be the site of a CMA member publication. No e-newspaper publications may be submitted. Judging will be on overall quality of site content and graphics, as well as effectiveness in meeting site objectives as stated by the entrant.

An entry consists of the URL of the website and a written description of site objectives.

**AW771: Best Web and Print Package**

This category recognizes the integration of print and online elements to present one main topic. Elements should include printed articles (text and photographs) and web information (text, photographs, graphic elements, slideshows, and/or videos). Judging will focus on the synergy of the combined package and how the elements work together to tell a story.

An entry consists of a URL for the online information submitted with your submission form.

**AW772a: Best Diocesan Electronic Newsletter**

This category recognizes the extent to which a publication is using a periodic diocesan electronic newsletter to drive traffic to its website. Judges will examine frequency, design and content of this increasingly popular communications vehicle.

An entry consists of **one** PDF file containing any **three to five** consecutive electronic newsletters.

**AW772b: Best National Electronic Newsletter**

This category recognizes the extent to which a publication is using a periodic national electronic newsletter to drive traffic to its website. Judges will examine frequency, design and content of this increasingly popular communications vehicle.

An entry consists of a URL for the online information submitted with your submission form.



## Submission Instructions

### Getting Started

Submit all entries digitally through the CMA awards website beginning Nov. 1, 2023.

- Please use [the link here](#) to submit your applications.
- The website allows you to view categories, make submissions, and pay in the same place.

Please read category descriptions to determine submission requirements for each category. If you have questions about eligibility, submissions, or payment, please [visit our website](#) then click on the awards tab. If you need further assistance, please email the awards team at [Awards@CatholicMediaAssociation.org](mailto:Awards@CatholicMediaAssociation.org).

### Create a Profile First

For simplicity's sake, we recommend creating **one PROFILE account** for your publication.

- **Returning Entrants:** You can use the same login information you used last year. If you do not remember your password you may go to the login page and click "Forgot My Password" to reset and make a new one.
- **New Entrants:** Click "Enter the Catholic Media Awards" on the homepage and follow prompts to create a username and password for your account.
- **New Format:** You will now select your membership type at the beginning of the submission form. After you select a membership type, you will see a box labeled "Publisher Name," this box is where you will select your publication or Communications Department name from a list. The address will auto-populate.
- **Video/PDF:** instructions may be viewed by clicking this [link](#) or a PDF file by clicking this [link](#).

### Creating a New Submission

1. Once logged in to your Profile account, click "Make Another Application" then "Enter Catholic Press Awards." You will be prompted to review your past submissions or to begin a new submission.
2. If you have any unfinished submissions from prior years, we suggest deleting them because they will not upload in the current contest.
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.
  - a. All entries are marked "Incomplete" until paid.
4. Options after making submissions:

- a. **Save your work:** Click “Save” to save your work and leave the form. You can return and edit it at any time, until you pay for it, by clicking on “My Applications” and clicking “Edit”.
  - b. **Prepare to Pay:** Click “Add To Cart” to move your saved submission to your cart.
    - i. You can return and edit by clicking “Make Changes” prior to paying.
    - ii. You can also remove it from your cart.
    - iii. Click “Checkout” to pay.
5. **Paid entries are marked “Complete” and cannot be edited.** We suggest you proof all submissions for duplicates, accuracy and attachments prior to paying.
- a. To fix mistakes after completion, contact [Awards@CatholicMediaAssociation.org](mailto:Awards@CatholicMediaAssociation.org) on or before Feb. 9, 2024.
6. To save time, you may duplicate your submission form. Once the entry is duplicated it copies all information. Then you only need to select a new category AND make sure all files needed are appropriately updated.

### Entry Fee and Payment Process

- One free entry per CMA Publisher or Freelance Member when submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST on Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024.
- Free entry may be your only entry.
- Free entry automatically added to your cart during the regular submission period. Please note, there is only one free entry per organization. If someone else has already used the free entry PRIOR to you using it, you will be billed for the difference once the program is reconciled.

### Additional Entries

- \$38 for all entries submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST on Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024.
- \$48 for all entries between Feb. 1 and Feb. 7, 2024 at 11:59 a.m. CST.

## Payment Instructions

### Ready for Checkout

1. When items are in your cart, a direct link to your cart will appear under “My Applications.” Click the link to edit submissions or pay for your entries.
2. When ready, click the “Checkout” button to select your method of payment, then click “Process.”
3. The next screen allows you to print your invoice and submission forms.

### Payment Options

- A. Online Credit Card: Enter the information and complete the transaction
- B. Pay by Check: Please include a copy of your invoice with your payment

### Mail Payment To:

**CMA Awards Program**  
Catholic Media Association  
10 S. Riverside Plaza, Suite 875  
Chicago, IL 60606

**Good luck and thank you for participating.**

### Entry Deadline

Open Submission Deadline: 11:59 p.m. CST, Jan. 31, 2024  
Extension Submission Deadline: 11:59 a.m. CST, Feb. 7, 2024