

WJEA FUTURE JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

HIGH SCHOOL AWARD/SCHOLARSHIP – \$750 – Deadline: Feb. 15, 2008

The recipient of this award/scholarship will be the Washington State entry in the National Journalism Education Association “High School Journalist of the Year” award competition. WJEA will forward the portfolio of the Washington state winner to the national committee for judging. The national winner will be announced at the JEA/NSPA national spring convention in April.

Qualifications for nominees:

1. Graduating high school senior
2. Planning to study journalism and/or mass communications in college and to pursue a journalism and/or mass communications career
3. 3.0 GPA minimum on a 4.0 scale
4. Participated in high school journalism for at least two years

Portfolio must include:

1. Official entry form
2. Self-analytical evaluation of your “journalistic life,” using your most creative form
3. Official copy of your transcript
4. 3-4 letters of recommendation from your adviser, and teachers who know your leadership and journalistic abilities, and people with whom you have worked (a letter from the principal desirable, but not required)
5. Samples of your work **carefully selected** to show the quality and diversity of your reporting, writing, photography, design, etc.
6. Self-addressed, padded, stamped envelope large enough to hold your portfolio if you want it returned

Preparing your portfolio:

1. Entry material should not exceed 35 pages. Both sides of the page may be used. Plastic sheet protectors are acceptable, but not required.
2. The pages should be inserted into a three-ring binder designed to hold 8 1/2 X 11 inch paper.

Some ideas to help you get started on the self-analytical evaluation:

How do you feel about journalism? How did you get started in journalism? What have you had to go through to achieve success in journalism? What have you contributed to journalism? What are your journalism plans for the future?

Samples of work should be carefully selected. **Provide judges with a cross section of your best work rather than everything ever produced.** The evaluation should be long enough for the judges to reach a decision as to your creative qualifications and short enough not to be boring or redundant. **Date, name of publication and relevance should be on the page with the sample.**

Include samples showing one or more of the following characteristics. They should be grouped according to what they represent, and these groupings should be labeled:

1. **Skilled and creative use of media content** – writing, production, photography, etc.
2. **Inquiring mind and investigative persistence** resulting in in-depth study or studies of issues important to the local high school community, high school students in general, or society
3. **Courageous and responsible handling of controversial issues** – local or societal – despite threat or imposition of censorship
4. **Variety of journalistic experiences handled in a quality manner** – newspaper, yearbook, broadcast, etc.
5. **Sustained and commendable work with community media**

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Name _____ (M/F) Grade _____

Address _____ Phone () _____

City, State _____ Zip _____

Parent/Gurardian Name(s) _____

School _____

School Address _____

City, State _____ Zip _____

Adviser Name _____ Phone () _____

How long have you been involved in journalism? _____

Positions held (specify media):

Media	Position	Year(s)
_____	_____	from _____ to _____
_____	_____	from _____ to _____
_____	_____	from _____ to _____
_____	_____	from _____ to _____

Has any of your work been honored by the press or electronic media? If so, what award? (Use a separate sheet to explain, if necessary) _____

Do you plan to enroll this year in a university or college journalism degree program? _____

List colleges/universities you are considering in order of preference; if you have been accepted, check the appropriate space; if you have decided on enrollment, lit only that college and check the space.

College/University	Accepted & considering	Definitely will attend
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Hometown newspaper _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Adviser: Help the student secure letters of recommendation as described. Collect from the nominee this entry form and all materials requested and **mail by FEBRUARY 15** to:

Robin Morris –1408 Potter Avenue, Richland WA 99352. (509) 943-9942; rcm217@aol.com