

2021 IJEA Newspaper & Digital Media Contest Results for Division 2 | Enrollment 851 to 1,900

CORE CATEGORIES | *Open to all publications — print, digital & hybrid*

NEWS

Best News Story

1st: Palmer Whiston, The Advocate, Washington Community H.S.

[Adjusting to 'New Normal'](#)

2nd: Nicholas Mitchinson, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[Uncertainty Regarding Staff Stipends](#)

3rd: Palmer Whiston, The Advocate, Washington Community H.S.

[Now streaming: "It's a Wonderful Life"](#)

HM: Haley Fisher, The Sentinel, Marist H.S.

[Legendary educator, counselor announces retirement](#)

Best In-Depth News Story

1st: Bridget Galibois, Payton News Network, Walter Payton College Prep H.S.

[One-quarter of freshmen don't turn on their cameras in virtual classes, Paw Print survey finds](#)

2nd: Allison Bealmer, The Advocate, Washington Community H.S.

[Collaborators combat Covid-19 virus](#)

3rd: Olivia Tilton, The Advocate, Washington Community H.S.

[Turbulent times trouble WCHS & world in 2020](#)

HM: Travis Johnson, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[Anticipation marks a historic election](#)

FEATURES

Best Feature Story

1st: Isabella Schreck, The Sentinel, Marist H.S.

[Marist Brothers remain dedicated to educational mission](#)

2nd: Ty Mosbach, The Advocate, Washington Community H.S.

[WCHS teacher co-authors The Star Wars Book](#)

3rd: Sofia Jasso, Inscape, Mother McAuley Liberal Arts H.S.

[Black Artists Celebrate Inclusivity](#)

HM: Aubrey Edwards, The Advocate, Washington Community H.S.

[Students, staff share quarantine stories](#)

HM: Kate Lavin, Payton News Network, Walter Payton College Prep H.S.

[Your voice, your vote? Ineligible voters at Payton feel unrepresented](#)

Best Personality Profile

1st: Madison Bratley, Payton News Network, Walter Payton College Prep H.S.

[Justin Woo finds new friends and renewed confidence through social media despite coronavirus](#)

2nd: Mairead O'Carroll, Mother McAuley Liberal Arts H.S.

[Artistic Ambitions](#)

3rd: Haley Fisher, The Sentinel, Marist H.S.

[Legendary Educator, Counselor Announces Retirement](#)

SPORTS

Best Sports News Story

1st: PJ Cunningham, The Sentinel, Marist H.S.

[Senior RedHawks commit to college sports careers](#)

2nd: Angel Ortiz Jr., The Sentinel, Marist H.S.

[TIME OUT! Pandemic postpones spring sports seasons](#)

3rd: Patrick Gampfer & Cody Ganzon, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[Status of Sports as the Seasons Change](#)

HM: Palmer Whiston, The Advocate, Washington Community H.S.

[IHSA faces challenges, makes tough decisions](#)

Best Sports Feature Story

1st: Madeleine Little, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[Impact of COVID-19 on College Recruiting](#)

2nd: Angel Ortiz Jr. & Patrick Maxwell, The Sentinel, Marist H.S.

[Senior RedHawk athletes reflect on final season](#)

3rd: Dane Massey, The Knight Times, Grayslake North H.S.

[Friday Night Lights out...for now](#)

HM: Nicholas Mitchinson, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[Students Work to Keep up with Sports](#)

HM: Dane Massey, The Knight Times, Grayslake North H.S.

[New face arrives as North's new head football coach](#)

Best Sports Commentary

1st: Billy McNicholas, The Sentinel, Marist H.S.

[The impact of COVID on high school athletes](#)

2nd: Dane Massey, The Knight Times, Grayslake North H.S.

[Playing through hard times: A playoff to remember](#)

3rd: Dane Massey, The Knight Times, Grayslake North H.S.

[Playing through hard times: COVID cases in professional sports](#)

OPINION

Best Staff Editorial

1st: Bella Watts, Payton News Network, Walter Payton College Prep H.S.

[A push to be away: A desire for more student-centered policies](#)

2nd: Staff, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[A Future Beyond COVID-19](#)

3rd: Staff, The Advocate, Washington Community H.S.

[Saluting School Stakeholders](#)

HM: Staff, The Knight Times, Grayslake North H.S.

[New block schedule will help students](#)

Best Serious Commentary

1st: Bella Watts, Payton News Network, Walter Payton College Prep H.S.

[A CPS-wide regression](#)

2nd: Aubrey Edwards, The Advocate, Washington Community H.S.

[Parking fee increased 250%](#)

3rd: Grace Molenhouse, The Sentinel, Marist H.S.

[Working the polls on Election Day](#)

HM: Palmer Whiston, The Advocate, Washington Community H.S.

[Freshmen reflect on unconventional start to high school](#)

HM: Lillien Salas, The Knight Times, Grayslake North H.S.

[Violence against Asian American communities must be recognized and stopped](#)

HM: Sarah Janito, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[Community College is the Right Choice](#)

Best Humorous Commentary

1st: Aaron Faier, Payton News Network, Walter Payton College Prep H.S.

[Students recreate the school experience at home](#)

2nd: Allison Bealmer, The Advocate, Washington Community H.S.

[Allison's Angle](#)

3rd: Janey Hynes, Inscape, Mother McAuley Liberal Arts H.S.

[Judge Janey December](#)

HM: Julia Reedy, The Sentinel, Marist H.S.

[Seniors susceptible to second epidemic](#)

HM: Janey Hynes, Inscape, Mother McAuley Liberal Arts H.S.

[Judge Janey February](#)

HM: Morgan Buckley, The Knight Times, Grayslake North H.S.

[Buckling down with Buckley: I cut my own bangs. Is it really such a bad thing?](#)

HM: Jenna Lin, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[Why Chick-fil-A is the Only Way](#)

Best Review

1st: Efren Ponce, Payton News Network, Walter Payton College Prep H.S.

[Ed Wood lives on in cult film from Tim Burton](#)

2nd: Grace Molenhouse, The Sentinel, Marist H.S.

[Theatre guild members deliver 'Wonderful' performances](#)

3rd: Sarah Janito, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[Six Movies Everyone Should See in Their Lifetime](#)

PHOTOS

Best News or Feature Photo

1st: Emma Schaefer, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[Empty football stadium](#)

2nd: PJ Cunningham, The Sentinel, Marist H.S.

[Academic team](#)

3rd: Eliza Marino, The Knight Times, Grayslake North H.S.

[Link Crew welcomes freshmen](#)

HM: Liv Mendoza, The Advocate, Washington Community H.S.

[Holiday Cheer](#)

Best Sports Photo

1st: Patrick Maxwell, The Sentinel, Marist H.S.

[Boys soccer](#)

2nd: Shannon Garcia, The Advocate, Washington Community H.S.

[Boys basketball](#)

3rd: Delaney Douglas, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[Tennis player](#)

HM: Angel Ortiz Jr., The Sentinel, Marist H.S.

[Football](#)

ART & GRAPHICS

Best Editorial Cartoon

1st: Sasha Anoshenko, Inscape, Mother McAuley Liberal Arts H.S.

[COVID-19](#)

2nd: Riley Lindsey, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[Post-COVID cafe](#)

3rd: Megan Stefanik, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[Students United](#)

HM: Grace Molenhouse, The Sentinel, Marist H.S.

[Amanda Gorman](#)

HM: Grace Molenhouse, The Sentinel, Marist H.S.

[Women's History Month](#)

Best Illustration

1st: Callie Lauderback, The Advocate, Washington Community H.S.

[Trump, 48%, Biden, 37% in mock election](#)

2nd: Grace Molenhouse, The Sentinel, Marist H.S.

[Holiday Movies](#)

3rd: Megan Stefanik, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[A COVID-19 Vaccine is Our Only Chance](#)

Best Infographic

1st: Sophia Opp & Sarah Janito, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[Are Students Too Materialistic?](#)

2nd: Angelica Topor, Inscape, Mother McAuley Liberal Arts H.S.

[Volunteering During COVID-19](#)

3rd: Madelyn Robbins, The Advocate, Washington Community H.S.

[COVID-19 Cases at WCHS](#)

HM: Bella Watts, Payton News Network, Walter Payton College Prep H.S.

[What Fall Movie Should You Watch?](#)

HM: Aubrey Edwards, The Advocate, Washington Community H.S.

[Mid-Illini Total Fee Cost](#)

MISCELLANEOUS

Best Headline

1st: Staff, The Advocate, Washington Community H.S.

[Turbulent times trouble WCHS & world in 2020](#)

2nd: Isabelle Ravanans, Payton News Network, Walter Payton College Prep H.S.

[The explosion of Advanced Placement Chemistry at Payton](#)

3rd: Dane Massey, The Knight Times, Grayslake North H.S.

[Friday Night Lights out...for now](#)

HM: Sophia Mullins & Sarah Janito, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[Racial Tension in the Midst of a Pandemic](#)

Best Alternative Storytelling

1st: Gabrielle Parker, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[A Walk Through How Life Has Changed Since Last School Year](#)

2nd: Janey Hynes, Inscape, Mother McAuley Liberal Arts H.S.

[How would the M wear a kilt?](#)

3rd: Kate Lavin, Payton News Network, Walter Payton College Prep H.S.

[Hot button education: should students be able to grade teachers?](#)

HM: Staff, The Advocate, Washington Community H.S.

[Q&A: A return to in-person learning](#)

Best Use of Social Media

1st: Jenna Lin, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[Twitter @kanelandkrier](#)

2nd: Morgan Buckley, Natalie Smith, Claire Armstrong, Michelle Szul, Varun Gullapalli, Danielle Broege & Dane Massey, The Knight Times, Grayslake North H.S.

[Twitter @GNHSKnightTimes](#)

3rd: Natalie Smith, Danielle Broege, Jack Larson & Camden Ellingsen, The Knight Times, Grayslake North H.S.

[Instagram @gnhsknighttimes](#)

Best Advertisement

1st: Ayshe Ali, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[Poinsettia ad](#)

2nd: Ayshe Ali, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[Batavia Creamery ad](#)

PRINT CATEGORIES | *For print-only publications & print versions of hybrid publications*

Best Single-Page Story Package

1st: Allison Bealmer & Madelyn Robbins, The Advocate, Washington Community H.S.

[Creating a Safe, Back-to-School Blueprint: Collaborators combat Covid-19 virus](#)

2nd: Olivia Tilton, The Advocate, Washington Community H.S.

[Trump, 48%, Biden, 37% in mock election](#)

3rd: Karmyn Hookham, Rob Luedtke & Sarah Janito, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[KHS Returns to the Stage](#)

HM: Madeleine Little & Morgan Phillipp, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[Healthy Lunches for a Healthy Lifestyle](#)

Best Centerspread Story Package

1st: Sophia Opp & Sarah Janito, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[Are Students Too Materialistic?](#)

2nd: Gabrielle Parker & Anna Olp, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[A Walk Through How Life Has Changed Since Last School Year](#)

Best Photo Story

1st: Matthew Warakomski, The Sentinel, Marist H.S.

[The shops around the corner](#)

2nd: Shannon Garcia, The Advocate, Washington Community H.S.

[Pandemic causes tweaks in school curriculum](#)

3rd: Sasha Clinnin & Delaney Douglas, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[Fox River Downtowns Prepare for the Holidays](#)

HM: Faith Harper, The Sentinel, Marist H.S.

[Let's open the door to face the music \(no masks required\)](#)

Best Front-Page Design

1st: Andrew Smith, The Advocate, Washington Community H.S.

[Dec. 17, 2020](#)

2nd: Staff, The Sentinel, Marist H.S.

[Oct. 2, 2020](#)

3rd: Jenna Lin & Emma Schaefer, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[Oct. 8, 2020](#)

HM: Bridget Gallagher, Inscape, Mother McAuley Liberal Arts H.S.

[November/December 2020](#)

Best Overall Design

1st: Staff, The Sentinel, Marist H.S.

[December 2020](#)

2nd: Staff, The Advocate, Washington Community H.S.

[Dec. 17, 2020](#)

3rd: Staff, Inscape, Mother McAuley Liberal Arts H.S.

January/February 2021: [1](#) | [2](#) | [3](#) | [4](#) | [5](#) | [6](#) | [7](#) | [8](#) | [9](#) | [10](#) | [11](#) | [12](#)

DIGITAL CATEGORIES | *For digital-only publications & online versions of hybrid publications*

Best Audio Journalism

1st: Sophie Opp, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[March 18 Emergency Board Meeting](#)

**2nd: Seth Berger, Isaiah Cole & Robert Ellis, Payton News Network,
Walter Payton College Prep H.S.**

[The Walk-On Podcast, Episode 13: Nick Hardy Illinois Golf](#)

3rd: Dane Massey, The Knight Times, Grayslake North H.S.

[Sports Vibe Ep. 1: Lawrence vs. Fields](#)

HM: Danielle Broege, The Knight Times, Grayslake North H.S.

[You don't say? with Katelyn Cimaglio](#)

Best Multimedia Story Package

1st: Sophia Mullins & Ayshe Ali, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[The Effects of COVID-19 Restrictions on Students](#)

2nd: Emma Schaefer, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[Meet The Backrooms: A Local Student-Run Band](#)

Best Photo Gallery or Photo Slideshow

1st: Emma Schaefer, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[A Weekend at the USA Archery Nationals](#)

2nd: Edgar Diaz, Payton News Network, Walter Payton College Prep H.S.

[Dia de los Muertos in Chicago](#)

3rd: Sophie Opp, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[Fitness in Quarantine](#)

Best Video Story

**1st: Julianna Mokaya & Bridget Cozzi, Payton News Network,
Walter Payton College Prep H.S.**

[Still Finding a Way to Dance](#)

2nd: Jenna Lin, Sophia Mullins & Ayshe Ali, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[Adjusting to the New Normal](#)

3rd: Karl Flener & Isaiah Cole, Payton News Network, Walter Payton College Prep H.S.

[Payton Online: How Students Are Adapting to Remote Learning](#)

Best Website

**1st: Morgan Buckley, Dane Massey, Natalie Smith, Claire Armstrong, Varun Gullapalli,
Michelle Szul & Danielle Broege, Grayslake North H.S.**

[The Knight Times](#)

**2nd: Isabella Watts, Madison Bratley, Ronan Solomon & Karl Flener,
Walter Payton College Prep H.S.**

[Payton Paw Print](#)

3rd: Sophia Mullins & Ayshe Ali, Kaneland H.S.

[Kaneland Krier](#)

SPECIAL CATEGORY | *Open to all publications — digital, print & hybrid*

Best COVID-19 Coverage

1st: Staff, The Sentinel, Marist H.S.

[Special Edition, April 2020](#)

2nd: Madeleine Little, Kaneland Krier, Kaneland H.S.

[Impact of COVID-19 On College Recruiting](#)

3rd: Linda Banuelos, The Knight Times, Grayslake North H.S.

[COVID-19 affects teachers, students both in school and at home](#)

HM: Sasha Anoshenko, Inscape, Mother McAuley Liberal Arts H.S.

[Mixed media illustration](#)

HM: Madison Bratley, Payton News Network, Walter Payton College Prep H.S.

[Breaking news: Preschool students and diverse learners in cluster programs will experience some in-person learning during second quarter...](#)

BEST PUBLICATION AWARDS | *Overall results for Division 2*

The results for Best Publication are determined by the number of points accumulated in the categories listed above, except for the special category of Best COVID-19 Coverage, which is not included in the calculations. For all other categories:

- 1st = 5 points
- 2nd = 4 points
- 3rd = 3 points
- HM = 1 point

Best Print Publication | *Publication that appears in print only**

1st: The Advocate — Washington Community H.S., Jennifer Reiser, adviser

2nd: The Sentinel — Marist H.S., John Gonczy, adviser

3rd: Inscape — Mother McAuley Liberal Arts H.S., Diana Burban, adviser

**This includes PDF versions*

Best Hybrid Publication | *Publication that appears in both online and print versions*

1st: Kaneland Krier — Kaneland H.S., Dominic Bruno, adviser

2nd: Payton News Network — Walter Payton College Prep H.S., Curtis Nunnery, adviser

3rd: The Knight Times — Grayslake North H.S., Brenda Smith, adviser

Best Overall Publication | *Most points regardless of publication type*

1st: Kaneland Krier — Kaneland H.S., Dominic Bruno, adviser

2nd: The Advocate — Washington Community H.S., Jennifer Reiser, adviser

3rd: The Sentinel — Marist H.S., John Gonczy, adviser
