

2023 IJEA Newspaper & Digital New Media Contest

Individual Winners | Division 5 | Enrollment 2,700 and over

BEST ADVERTISEMENT

First Place

- Contestant Name: Huntley High School
- Entry Title: Huntley Collision Advertisement
- Entry Credit: Sophia Coronado
- Judge Comment: Fun illustration. Nice layout. Solid copy. Who could ask for more (smile).

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
- Entry Title: Top Driver
- Entry Credit: Maria Khanani
- Judge Comment: Strong colors with interesting hierarchy.

Third Place

- Contestant Name: Huntley High School
- Entry Title: Advanced Eyecare Clinic
- Entry Credit: Jaeden Capito
- Judge Comment: You got it all in such a small space. Nice work.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
 - Entry Title: Viking
 - Entry Credit: Sofia Oyarzun
 - Judge Comment: Good message. Good call outs.
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BEST ALTERNATIVE STORYTELLING

First Place

- Contestant Name: Stevenson High School
- Entry Title: On the Safe Side
- Entry Credit: Shannon Moser
- Judge Comment: Are those really blue prints for Stevenson? So cool. The no caps, then all caps then italic regular caps is bold; I do like how it accentuates the body copy, which is written precisely and tells a story. Well done.

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: Campbell talks new role, fresh vision
- Entry Credit: Ahania Soni
- Judge Comment: The photo is much too large given its resolution. Take a portrait photo of your QA subject next time. Any smart phone will do. The body copy itself tells a good story. And I think the questions are well done and paced. I'm curious why "this" is bolded, did he write these answers out? If so, many style guides require you to say these are "emailed answers" or some such within the story.

Third Place

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
- Entry Title: Battle of the Brews
- Entry Credit: Maya Scahill, Sara Rahman
- Judge Comment: You can almost tell which ones will have the highest rating by the picture. It's actually kind of interesting to see. This is well-done body copy, and well done on seemingly minor attentions to detail that add up.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: Taylor Swift songs to listen to when...
- Entry Credit: Sadie Dowhan
- Judge Comment: This took effort and is good, but I'd encourage you to optimize it for the digital medium by constructing an embeddable Spotify playlist to go with it. Alternative story formats attempt to save readers time.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
- Entry Title: Battle of the Bagels
- Entry Credit: Layla Mohamed, Riley Shankman, Sara Rahman
- Judge Comment: This is solid and stands on its own, however I didn't really learn much and would have liked some light reporting or research. It is sharp and I appreciate all the hard work that went into it.

Competition Comment

These were great submissions and show a lot of promise. The deciding factor usually resolved with the degree to which a given submission stood on its own while also putting a premium on journalistic effort. This isn't the infographic category, Alternative Story Formats stand apart with greater emphasis on text and interaction. Magazines use ASFs religiously, especially in the front of the book section. Which in the older style magazines, can run really heavy on text, but still run the reader around a gambit of stories and make them feel wordly -- like they read 2x more than they actually did. The style has crept into newsletter and digital-first formats like Axios, and also defunct formats like Quartz' chatbot stories and Vox card stacks. These didn't fail

because ASF is dying, rather ASF is becoming ubiquitous with the wider newsroom. Hone this craft and you'll go far

BEST AUDIO JOURNALISM

First Place

- Contestant Name: Stevenson High School
- Entry Title: Statesman Soundwave: Figure Skating Edition
- Entry Credit: Eshaam Bhattad, Fiona Jin
- Judge Comment: None

Competition Comment

Students entering an audio competition should be mindful of audio quality. Just setting a bunch of people down in a room with one microphone for everyone makes for poor audio.

BEST CENTERSPREAD STORY PACKAGE

First Place

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
- Entry Title: The Final Blow
- Entry Credit: Gaby Yap, Sofia Cole, Maddie Cole, Sarah Al-Jawhar, Renee Choe, Maya Scahill, Max Beitzel, Sofia Oyarzun
- Judge Comment: None

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Barrington High School
- Entry Title: Sleepy?
- Entry Credit: Emily Won
- Judge Comment: None

Third Place

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
- Entry Title: Chronic Conditions: Students share stories
- Entry Credit: Anna Marquardt, Ariana Raghian, Kaylee Calito, Isi Augustin
- Judge Comment: None

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Stevenson High School
- Entry Title: Coaching Off-Court
- Entry Credit: Timothy Bui, Katya Dubinin, Collin Fan
- Judge Comment: None

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
 - Entry Title: Just a 30-minute cab ride away: An inside look at North Cook Young Adult Academy
 - Entry Credit: Jessica Sehgal, Kupu Sumi
 - Judge Comment: None
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BEST EDITORIAL CARTOON

First Place

- Contestant Name: Stevenson High School
- Entry Title: In Affirmation
- Entry Credit: Nicole Yao
- Judge Comment: The cartoon makes a strong image on its own while grabbing readers and encouraging them to read the accompanying editorial. The stark images suggest something cold about the bureaucracy in addressing a challenge to social justice.

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: Pipeline
- Entry Credit: Nina Ferrer
- Judge Comment: The cartoon creates a haunting image with an empty desk in a darkened room. The image suits the somber tone of the accompanying editorial and suggests that decision get made without even picturing those affected by them.

Third Place

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: White-washed
- Entry Credit: Ahania Soni
- Judge Comment: The cartoon would grab readers and pull them into the accompanying editorial. The image conveys a sense that the whitewashing of history has just begun. The image conveys a sense of profound urgency.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
- Entry Title: It is time to reevaluate our language
- Entry Credit: Renee Choe
- Judge Comment: Like the accompanying article, the cartoon calls out everyone in the community -- including students. Readers might have trouble reading some of the text, but the image carries the message well on its own.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School

- Entry Title: In order comes chaos
- Entry Credit: Hyun Park
- Judge Comment: The image conveys the paradox of the accompanying editorial well. The clear lines of the view of the students as a herd versus viewing the overwhelmed individual suggests how the bureaucratic complacency occurs.

Competition Comment

Editorial cartoons at their best should challenge authority and address issues that relate to the school. Think of them as combining critical thinking with artistic talent. Making a strong point in the public interest is a good use of artistic talent. The tenets of the Hutchins Commission should guide the cartoonist in the same way they should guide editorial writers.

BEST FEATURE STORY

First Place

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: Soup for the Soul
- Entry Credit: Jilian Denlow, Isabella Martinez
- Judge Comment: Very complete story with good quotes. Made the subject interesting, when it could have been a typical run-of-the-mill story.

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
- Entry Title: Chronic conditions: students share stories / Living through a different lens
- Entry Credit: Anna Marquardt, Ariana Raghian, Kaylee Calito, Isi Agustin
- Judge Comment: Good package but I think the order should have been flipped to read the main story first and the personal stories second. The three sidebars really added a lot to this story, especially because each one of them dealt with different conditions.

Third Place

- Contestant Name: Barrington High School
 - Entry Title: Barrington: Figment of Belonging
 - Entry Credit: Sarah Quig
 - Judge Comment: Not sure why Jane Doe led the story. And I was confused by why all the sources were in boldface especially when some used pseudonyms and others didn't. These inconsistencies led to a third place.
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BEST FRONT-PAGE DESIGN

First Place

- Contestant Name: Barrington High School
- Entry Title: The Cover ("How Much Does Your 5.0 GPA Cost?")

- Entry Credit: Vidya Madana , Emily Won
- Judge Comment: None

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: Evanstonian March Issue Front Cover
- Entry Credit: Ahania Soni, Kupu Sumi, Jessica Sehgal, Meg Houseworth, Jillian Arnyai
- Judge Comment: None

Third Place

- Contestant Name: Stevenson High School
- Entry Title: Handle with Care
- Entry Credit: Jennifer Huang, Shannon Moser
- Judge Comment: None

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: Evanstonian October Issue Front Cover
- Entry Credit: Ahania Soni, Jessica Sehgal, Meg Houseworth, Kupu Sumi
- Judge Comment: None

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Huntley High School
- Entry Title: What It Feels Like Cover
- Entry Credit: Diana Arellano
- Judge Comment: None

BEST HEADLINE

First Place

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
- Entry Title: It's time to give voice to African American History
- Entry Credit: Liv Perkins
- Judge Comment: Nice headline, nice visuals for an editorial. Strong, engaging look. Looks great all around.

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Huntley High School
- Entry Title: It's all arrow dynamics
- Entry Credit: Abby Panier
- Judge Comment: Love the headline. The deck (subheadline) is perfect in telling me more info. The presentation tells me immediately what the story is about.

Third Place

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
- Entry Title: Sex should not sell: The progression of the sexualization of teenage girls in the media
- Entry Credit (**revised 05-17-23**): Tara Wirtschoreck, Gaby Yap
- Judge Comment: Powerful headline - it's a bit like an opinion, though, or would have ranked higher. Nice job taking the line of 'Sex sells' and making it something else.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Stevenson High School
- Entry Title: All About that Bass
- Entry Credit: Gaurish Lakhanpal, Brayden Caldwell
- Judge Comment: Fun, clever headline. Takes the popular song and makes it clear we're talking about fish here.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Huntley High School
- Entry Title: Ice In His Veins
- Entry Credit: Chase Keller
- Judge Comment: Nice headline to describe how tough and enduring he is. Nice deck (subheadline) to tell me more.

Competition Comment

Some great visuals here and clever headlines.

BEST HUMOROUS COMMENTARY

First Place

- Contestant Name: Stevenson High School
- Entry Title: To the Ends of the Earth
- Entry Credit: Sarah Zhang, Helen Oriatti-Bruns
- Judge Comment: I'm still unsure what to make of this entry, but it sure made me laugh. I'm just not sure how much of it is pure satire and how much is "inspired by real events," as they say in Hollywood. All involved seemed to enjoy the ride.

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: Brunching in Evanston: the divine right of humankind
- Entry Credit: Leah Johnson
- Judge Comment: This is a light-hearted, clever musing on the joys of brunch. Satiric, over-the-top comments add to the fun. Well-written (other than a pronoun glitch toward the end: "me and my mom's ...)

Third Place

- Contestant Name: Barrington High School
- Entry Title: Amazon, cake and how to avoid the fate of the Neanderthals
- Entry Credit: Sophia Gordon
- Judge Comment: This entry displays a clever, light touch and has a snappy ending. Well thought-out.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: New Trier High School
 - Entry Title: Professional politician and professional liar takes seat in congress
 - Entry Credit: Stella Dale
 - Judge Comment: This is a wry look at a high-profile politician with "credibility issues." Writer gets some funny digs in.
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BEST ILLUSTRATION

First Place

- Contestant Name: Stevenson High School
- Entry Title: Challenging the Court of Law
- Entry Credit: Elizabeth Yuan
- Judge Comment: Terrific illustration of "blind justice" -- peeking out at the scales from beneath the blinders -- that aligns perfectly with the article about the need for student awareness in an age of controversial judicial decisions. Excellent work.

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
- Entry Title: Feminism: students, staff reflect on movement
- Entry Credit: Al Tantalidou
- Judge Comment: Impressive combination of drawing and photo grouping that makes this illustration not only attractive but highly informative. Good work!

Third Place

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
- Entry Title: "Judge"ment: words can kill
- Entry Credit: Sofia Oyarzun
- Judge Comment: Good photo illustration that clearly links with the article's theme that words alone can have seriously detrimental consequences. Nice work.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Barrington High School
- Entry Title: Somewhere in the rainbow: What pride means to LGBTQ+ youth
- Entry Credit: Annie Thyfault

- Judge Comment: Nicely done illustration, playing off the rainbow-flag theme. I like that the focus is solely on the eyes -- which show so much about all of us. Good job.

Competition Comment

The illustrations entered in this category were almost uniformly high quality. However, I can't emphasize enough that IJEA's guidelines for this category specifically state that the illustration is to be the dominant artwork with a story -- and if the story and/or page is not submitted, a judge has no way to determine if that is the case. In the future, be sure to give the entry the context required to judge it with the guidelines in mind: submit the story and/or page where the illustration appears.

BEST IN-DEPTH NEW STORY

First Place

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: A historical tug of war
- Entry Credit: Jessica Sehgal, Bridget Baker, Marin Ubersox, Milo Slevin
- Judge Comment: Excellent reporting. Nice mix of stories. Topic connects extremely well to school community. Excellent background. Watch editorializing in writing. Try writing tighter.

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Huntley High School
- Entry Title: Shedding LIGHT on an unknown program
- Entry Credit: Megan Curry
- Judge Comment: Good reporting. Great sources. Nice connection to school. Watch editing and style. Quotes by participants would help. Offer specifics -- rather than "...offers hundreds of programs," indicate if it's 400 or 900.

Third Place

- Contestant Name: Huntley High School
- Entry Title: Get on their level
- Entry Credit: Chase Keller
- Judge Comment: Good in-depth feature, More description of Esports would help.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Barrington High School
- Entry Title: At What Cost?
- Entry Credit: Neha Doppalapudi
- Judge Comment: Well written, but more info. would help -- are AP courses worth it? If so, how? What about schools that do not recognize AP courses? Sources from colleges would help. Statistical support needed as well

Competition Comment

In-depth reporting should provide extensive details, sources, and attribution to readers. The recognized entries do that. Make sure the news angle is clear so readers get a clear understanding as to why this story is written as an in-depth.

BEST INFOGRAPHIC

First Place

- Contestant Name: Stevenson High School
- Entry Title: Beyond Beliefs
- Entry Credit: Jennifer Huang
- Judge Comment: Beautifully integrated into the article! Well executed.

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
- Entry Title: Chronic Conditions: Students share stories (right sidebar)
- Entry Credit: Anna Marquardt
- Judge Comment: Beautifully done infographic! The illustrations are well-executed and look visually cohesive. I think the visual representation of 40%, 6in10 and 90% could be improved however – maybe extend the white box to the right margin with a different background color or line to show more clearly the percentage? The pull quote fights the infographic for visual dominance - I would recommend making the bold text of the pull quote smaller and using a simpler text wrap shape such as a rectangle, rather than following the contours of the text.

Third Place

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: Massacres in the U.S. - 1864-1868
- Entry Credit: Mack Jones
- Judge Comment: Well-executed infographic showing the location of each massacre and a description of each in a logical and graphic form. Sophisticated color scheme. I don't think you need to repeat "massacre" for each entry though.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: City of Evanston by Grocery Store
- Entry Credit: Ahania Soni
- Judge Comment: I love the retro, old-timey, hand-colored map feeling of the map. Accompanies the article nicely, However, I want more - names of the stores and addresses for each of the pushpins.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Barrington High School

- Entry Title: Are you my type?
- Entry Credit: Vidya Madana
- Judge Comment: Beautiful infographic! Lots of information presented in a graphic manner for ease of understanding. Very friendly and inviting. However, the infographic does not accompany an article.

Competition Comment

Some entries were excellent but were stand-alone infographics that did not accompany an article, so according to the rules of the competition should have been submitted in the "Alternate Storytelling" category.

BEST MULTIMEDIA STORY PACKAGE

First Place

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: Kadiri's Kitchen: Boba!
- Entry Credit: Sadie Dowhan, Jordin Kadiri
- Judge Comment: I really enjoyed the video reviews alongside the written summaries. It didn't feel repetitive, and your creativity and personality shined through the video. Well done.

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Stevenson High School
- Entry Title: Community Features: Taiwanese Club
- Entry Credit: Kelly Liu, Samantha Lerner, Kyla Smith, Ansh Aggarwal
- Judge Comment: Fantastic video shooting, editing and presentation.

Third Place

- Contestant Name: Barrington High School
 - Entry Title: Greenhouse grand opening highlights new renovations
 - Entry Credit: Vidya Madana
 - Judge Comment: Great photos!
-

BEST NEWS OR FEATURE PHOTO

First Place

- Contestant Name: Huntley High School
- Entry Title: Portrait: Victor Adeoye
- Entry Credit: Katie Walsh
- Judge Comment: Beautiful shot! Well-done!!

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Huntley High School
- Entry Title: Homecoming Guy Poms Photo
- Entry Credit: Alexis Cobb
- Judge Comment: Nice work capturing the enthusiasm of the moment. Great composition and point of view.

Third Place

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: Every day, over 3,400 students stream into ETHS.
- Entry Credit: Stella Hanson
- Judge Comment: Interesting experimental photo.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
- Entry Title: Serving Joy
- Entry Credit: Sofia Oyarzun
- Judge Comment: Nice portrait of the subject of the article.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
 - Entry Title: Group Act
 - Entry Credit: Sofia Oyarzun
 - Judge Comment: Good job capturing the pins in the air! Essential for a juggling image.
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BEST NEWS STORY

First Place

- Contestant Name: New Trier High School
- Entry Title: Amid national crisis, New Trier sees drop in math scores
- Entry Credit: Neil Sanderson
- Judge Comment: Smart, clear reporting on a topic that is directly relevant to your audience. Well done!

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
- Entry Title: New year, new principal
- Entry Credit: Mia Carr
- Judge Comment: Nice combo of reported piece and Q&A. This approach gives the reader the info they need and provides the necessary context. Overall, work on being more concise in your writing. Many of your sentences feel overwritten and wordy.

Third Place

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School

- Entry Title: Evanston concludes year-long search for City Manager
- Entry Credit: Milo Slevin
- Judge Comment: Your writing style is very easy to read and draws the reader in. Next time make it more clear to the reader early on how the news impacts them.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: New Trier High School
 - Entry Title: Student duo takes on local election
 - Entry Credit: William Karr
 - Judge Comment: Good clear writing and I like the narrative approach. Next time work on crafting a direct nut graph.
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BEST OVERALL DESIGN

First Place

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
- Entry Title: The Oracle: VOLUME LXI, Issue 5, March 15, 2023
- Entry Credit: Jessie Norwood, Caroline Ohlandt, Emily Pavlik
- Judge Comment: Striking cover image and headline. Clearly marked sections heads and folios. Excellent combination of graphics, artwork, screens and reverse type for vaping spread on pp. 10-11. Liberal use of student artwork on pp. 2, 5, 7-8. Text frames, fun font headline and section heads on pp. 18-19 make for an eye-catching layout. Body copy is neat and tidy, with virtually no widows, orphans or bad text breaks.

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Stevenson High School
- Entry Title: Handle with Care
- Entry Credit: Collin Fan, Anika Krishnaswamy, Kelly Liu, Aayushi Wadhawan, Surya Sethi, Shannon Moser, Jennifer Huang
- Judge Comment: Excellent photography on cover and p. 3. Clever blend of graphics and text make for eye-catching page designs. Best examples: Stigmatized to sensationalized, the Full Spectrum and Speaking Out Against Prejudice. Distinct callouts and screens on pp. 9, 18, 21 and 24 create visual interest. Body copy is clean and free of widows, orphans or bad text breaks.

Third Place

- Contestant Name: Barrington High School
- Entry Title: The RoundUp - Identity Special Issue
- Entry Credit: Vidya Madana, Emily Won, Neha Doppalapudi, Laeticia Cerdas, Rebecca Li, Avery Trapp
- Judge Comment: Eye-catching, layered page design (Support from the Sidelines) marks this issue's best page. Social identity theme carried throughout entire issue with respect to visuals and graphics. Body copy is neat and tidy, with no widows, orphans or bad text

breaks. Clear and consistent headlines and bylines. Other layered screens (making a home from a house, reaching the breaking point) add to visual interest.

BEST PERSONALITY PROFILE

First Place

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: Pep-pering jokes from YAMO, to SNL, to Boom Chicago
- Entry Credit: Mae Luning
- Judge Comment: A fascinating profile of an interesting ETHS grad. Strong reporting and deft, smart writing throughout.

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: Serving validation, connection ... and caffeine
- Entry Credit: Jilian Denlow, Izabella Paracuelles
- Judge Comment: This is a beautifully written story about a well-known Evanston entrepreneur. The one critique I would make is that the story takes a long time to mention Kim. It might be good to signal earlier that the piece is about him—that is, without damaging the strong opening description.

Third Place

- Contestant Name: New Trier High School
- Entry Title: Student rower beats school record
- Entry Credit: Kate Dieffenbacher
- Judge Comment: This newsworthy story is a quick read that conveys the gratitude and passion that drive this talented rower. It's beautifully told.

Competition Comment

I was delighted to read the very strong entries in this competition.

BEST PHOTO GALLERY/SLIDESHOW

First Place

- Contestant Name: Stevenson High School
- Entry Title: Streetfest: Photojournalism
- Entry Credit: Ansh Aggarwal, Yumna Ali-Khan, Fiona Jin, Camden Wright
- Judge Comment: Excellent combination of words and images to tell a story from start to finish! Very satisfying! Excellent variety of shots and compositional choices. Well done!

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Barrington High School

- Entry Title: Behind the scenes of 'Fiddler on the Roof'
- Entry Credit: Alexis Mathai
- Judge Comment: Love the photos! This would have placed higher with more context in the form of cutlines (captions), but overall this is very strong visual storytelling.

Third Place

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: Six months of climate action in Chicago
- Entry Credit: Tanya Weisman, Isaac Suarez Flint
- Judge Comment: The introductory text is informative, and the photos are striking. Together they work to tell a story in impressive fashion. A few more photos to provide us a fuller version of the event would have helped this to place higher — for example, some photos of the students at the school getting ready for the event, etc. But overall, this is really strong work!

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Huntley High School
- Entry Title: Huntley HS v. Prairie Ridge Football Game
- Entry Credit: Alexis Cobb
- Judge Comment: These photos are really good — some excellent composition and nice variety of angles. Some of the action shots are extremely impressive, particularly the cheerleader photo. This would have placed higher with more context in the form of cutlines (captions), but overall this is very strong visual storytelling.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Huntley High School
- Entry Title: Huntley HS v. Burlington-Central Football Game
- Entry Credit: Alexis Cobb
- Judge Comment: This entry is very similar to the Huntley vs. Prairie Ridge gallery. I thought the Prairie Ridge gallery had more memorable photos, but this gallery is strong as well, definitely strong enough to merit honorable mention. Again, this would have placed higher if it had contained cutlines (captions) to provide context.

Competition Comment

All of the competitors in Division 5 understood how to do visual storytelling. It was a delight to judge this division!

BEST PHOTO STORY

First Place

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: When do we want it? Now
- Entry Credit: Isaac Suarez Flint, Tanya Weisman, Ahanian Soni

- Judge Comment: Excellent mix of photos--black and white, color, close up, group shot--describing the subject/issue in an efficient and effective way.

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Barrington High School
- Entry Title: Through the lens
- Entry Credit: Grace den Ouden, Aarya Arun
- Judge Comment: Nice variety of photos covering alot of ground!

Third Place

- Contestant Name: Stevenson High School
 - Entry Title: Caught on Guard
 - Entry Credit: Lance Locker
 - Judge Comment: Nice, sharp, well-composed photos.
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BEST REVIEW

First Place

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
- Entry Title: How to be a Human Being hits all the right notes
- Entry Credit: Maddie Cloutier
- Judge Comment: A marvelous review of a Glass Animals album, proclaimed by the writer as her all-time favorite, who effectively shows how it is an exercise in empathy.

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Huntley High School
- Entry Title: Old faces, new drama
- Entry Credit: Irene Banerjee
- Judge Comment: A remarkably in-depth and persuasive examination of how the second season of "Ginny & Georgia" stepped up its game in terms of representation.

Third Place

- Contestant Name: New Trier High School
- Entry Title: SZA saves our souls with new release
- Entry Credit: Charlotte Hutchinson
- Judge Comment: A superb analysis of SZA's new album, featuring such perceptive insights as how auto tune can function as a mask.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: New Trier High School
- Entry Title: 'Glass Onion' shatters expectations
- Entry Credit: Ana Torresarpi

- Judge Comment: This review of Rian Johnson's great "Glass Onion" pulls off the remarkable feat of revealing nothing while getting the reader enticed to see it ASAP.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: Fourth Place: Bagel Art Cafe
- Entry Credit: Clara Gustafson
- Judge Comment: A lovely, vividly etched portrait of the cozy Bagel Art Cafe that makes the reader immediately want to pay it a visit.

Competition Comment

If I could, I would give each submission in this category a prize. Fine work all around!

BEST SERIOUS COMMENTARY

First Place

- Contestant Name: Stevenson High School
- Entry Title: Paying the Price
- Entry Credit: Elizabeth Yuan, Lance Locker
- Judge Comment: Best of a group of well-written editorials, effective hook and presentation of the problem, reliable sources proving their point, and positive examples of ways to alleviate the situation by the student body and with governmental help. Well done!

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
- Entry Title: Breaking the cycle: Healthy relationships possible by moving beyond our pasts
- Entry Credit: Liv Perkins
- Judge Comment: Interesting presentation of the problem, relevant facts, reliable sources and viable solutions or suggestions for remediation.

Third Place

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: 'NIMBY' in Evanston
- Entry Credit: Sophia Sherman
- Judge Comment: Well written, relevant quotes, related to school's students as well as the community.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
- Entry Title: Learning to embrace the power of rejection
- Entry Credit: Sarah Ordway

- Judge Comment: Relevant to entire student body; well written with valid examples.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Huntley High School
- Entry Title: It's time to shape up or put the phones down
- Entry Credit: Megan Curry
- Judge Comment: Relevant problem probed from many points of view; examples of successful solutions from teachers.

Competition Comment

The editorials in this group were mostly well written with relevant topics, informative quotes. and when needed, the sources were properly attributed.

BEST SINGLE-PAGE STORY PACKAGE

Place Name: First Place

- Contestant Name: Barrington High School
- Entry Title: Student Selections
- Entry Credit: Sabrina Roach
- Judge Comment: Good use of photo combined with graphics. Clean and instantly engaging and informative.

Place Name: Second Place

- Contestant Name: Stevenson High School
- Entry Title: Breaking Down Food Waste
- Entry Credit: Collin Fan, Lance Locker
- Judge Comment: Truly excellent use of white/negative space. Love the inset on the body copy, and the generous space and typography of the headline. Very professional magazine-style look to this package.

Place Name: Third Place

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
 - Entry Title: Feminism (story, illustration, graphic)
 - Entry Credit: Sofia Cole, Anna Marquardt, Al Tantalidou
 - Judge Comment: History package is so good that I would have given more space to it and less space to illustration and headline. The page essentially has three visual elements of about same size competing — head, illustration, history package.
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BEST SPORTS COMMENTARY

First Place

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School

- Entry Title: The Bears plan to move to Arlington Heights will make fan experience better
- Entry Credit: Jeremy Schoen
- Judge Comment: A fine column with the writer using facts and personal experiences to make his case.

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: Gender discrimination plagues athletes, even 50 years after Title IX
- Entry Credit: Alexis Rogers
- Judge Comment: A passionate opinion piece on Title IX using facts to document the law's benefits and to expose the gaps still in place between women's and men's athletics.

Third Place

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
- Entry Title: Legacy Remembrance
- Entry Credit: Hunter Kreske
- Judge Comment: A touching, personal opinion piece on the need for mental health treatment.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
- Entry Title: Women athletes stand up
- Entry Credit: Emily Pavlik
- Judge Comment: A good opinion piece on sexism in athletics that offers ways to confront such discrimination.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Stevenson High School
- Entry Title: Club Sports: Pain or Gain
- Entry Credit: Samantha Lerner, Lillian Zhou
- Judge Comment: A fun opinion piece with the writers taking a pro and con side discussing the merits of club sports.

BEST SPORTS FEATURE STORY

First Place

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: Athletic trainers: the backbone of ETHS sports
- Entry Credit: Jessica Sehgal
- Judge Comment: Excellent piece. Through, good background, good sourcing and descriptions. A pleasure to read.

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Huntley High School
- Entry Title: It's all arrow dynamics
- Entry Credit: Abby Panier
- Judge Comment: Excellent profile. Good job of incorporating details about the sport along with details of her journey. Such a pleasure to read.

Third Place

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
- Entry Title: Measuring up: handling sports expectations
- Entry Credit (**revised 05-17-23**): Tara Wirtschoreck
- Judge Comment: Nice overview of the issue of pressure and mental health in sports. Excellent selection of sources and good use of quotes. Good feature topic.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Barrington High School
- Entry Title: World Cup Craze
- Entry Credit: Neha Doppalapudi
- Judge Comment: Nice way to localize a national story! Good quotes, descriptions and story structure! Fun to read.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Stevenson High School
- Entry Title: On the Line
- Entry Credit: Collin Fan, Lance Locker, Ava Winber
- Judge Comment: Scary story. Always a little leery of anonymity, but good personal stories. Could you have talked to a school psychologist? Where is the recovery center you mentioned? Is it local?

Competition Comment

The variety of topics in this division was such a treat for the judge. Genuinely interesting features with thorough background and sourcing to explain the subjects. Bravo!

BEST SPORTS NEWS STORY

First Place

- Contestant Name: New Trier High School
- Entry Title: Girls take home second straight title
- Entry Credit: Owen Appel
- Judge Comment: Amazing job highlighting how, despite having a history of championship success, the Trevs surpassed expectations and overcame some bumps in the road to secure another championship. The quote from the coach at the end summed

it up best: “I think it’s become so commonplace at the school that to some people it’s like ‘no big deal,’ but it just doesn’t get old.”

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: Girls basketball celebrates fifty years of Title IX after loss to Hersey at E-Town Showdown
- Entry Credit: Alexis Rogers
- Judge Comment: Some quotes from players about what Title IX means to them would’ve added another layer to what it meant to them and why it’s bigger than sports. A great example is the use of Title IX as the motivating factor for Brittanny Johnson. The story highlights what it means to her while also connecting it to her position as coach.

Third Place

- Contestant Name: Huntley High School
- Entry Title: A win for suicide awareness
- Entry Credit: Taryn Rainey
- Judge Comment: Considering the headline, the section about spreading suicide awareness should be more toward the beginning of the article. Fantastic imagery and description of the atmosphere. Also a nice job of balancing a non-sports topic with key moments in the game, it flowed well.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: Adams dominates paint on both ends in boys basketball win over GBN
- Entry Credit: Owen Chiss
- Judge Comment: Splitting up the story with sub headers hurt the flow a bit, but a great job highlighting Evanston’s struggles in the first game against Glenbrook North and how the team made adjustments to put forth a better performance the next time around.

Competition Comment

A great job of highlighting how different programs navigate through their struggles and learn from previous key performances to ensure a more successful result. There were also some great pieces that tied the performance of a team to an entirely different topic altogether. While that can be extremely tricky to balance, it was well executed more than once in this competition. Very impressive.

BEST SPORTS PHOTO

First Place

- Contestant Name: Stevenson High School
- Entry Title: Patriots Scout a Win Against Lake Forest
- Entry Credit: Ansh Aggarwal

- Judge Comment: Wow! Great shot!! Tight and sharp. Well-done!

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Barrington High School
- Entry Title: Head above water
- Entry Credit: Aarya Arun
- Judge Comment: Great close-up with excellent composition and focus.

Third Place

- Contestant Name: Huntley High School
- Entry Title: Quarterback Photo
- Entry Credit: Alexis Cobb
- Judge Comment: Really nice framing and exposure.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Huntley High School
- Entry Title: Alex Johnson Long Jump Photo
- Entry Credit: Alexis Cobb
- Judge Comment: Nice work capturing the landing.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: New Trier High School
 - Entry Title: Team determined to reload after early losses
 - Entry Credit: Sophie Meyer
 - Judge Comment: Great composition and timing!
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BEST STAFF EDITORIAL

First Place

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: In addressing safety, ETHS must center experience of marginalized students
- Entry Credit: Evanstonian Editorial Board
- Judge Comment: Really excellent work calling out a specific issue at your school. The level of detail and passion takes this to the next level. Good job!

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: Students, community must support measures to protect teaching truth & critical thoughts in schools
- Entry Credit: Evanstonian Editorial Board
- Judge Comment: Great job focusing on an important topic. Keep speaking up about these issues and be sure to call out any specific instances at your school.

Third Place

- Contestant Name: New Trier High School
- Entry Title: Review week pre-finals: a must for student growth
- Entry Credit: Maya Ramaswamy
- Judge Comment: Great job focusing on a student centered issue. Don't be afraid to keep pushing on all issues and focus on other topics in the future as well.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
- Entry Title: Enough: It is time to take a stand against gun violence
- Entry Credit: Editorial Board
- Judge Comment: Great job writing about such an important issue. In the future, be sure to rely on your own voices. Use experts and others for support, but don't be afraid to focus on your own thoughts.

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
- Entry Title: It's time to give voice to African American History
- Entry Credit: Editorial Board
- Judge Comment: Excellent work. Don't be afraid to have more of your opinion throughout so as not to be confused with a feature article in the future.

Competition Comment

The strongest division of all the editorials. It was a very close call for first place and there were many very worthy submissions.

BEST USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA**First Place**

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: The Evanstonian Instagram
- Entry Credit: Sadie Dowhan
- Judge Comment: None

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Huntley High School
- Entry Title: Huntley Voice TikTok
- Entry Credit: Ally Panzloff, Carrie Willig, Sophie Thompson
- Judge Comment: None

Third Place

- Contestant Name: Huntley High School
- Entry Title: Huntley Voice Instagram

- Entry Credit: Ally Panzloff, Carrie Willig, Sophie Thompson
- Judge Comment: None

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: Glenbrook South High School
- Entry Title: The Oracle Instagram
- Entry Credit: Kris Blumberg, Hafsa Rahman
- Judge Comment: None

Honorable Mention

- Contestant Name: New Trier High School
 - Entry Title: New Trier News Instagram
 - Entry Credit: Ana Torres, Stella Dale
 - Judge Comment: None
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BEST VIDEO STORY

First Place

- Contestant Name: Barrington High School
- Entry Title: The Making of Peter and Wendy
- Entry Credit: Alexis Mathai
- Judge Comment: Good cutaway footage; good stable video; good use of tripod--music a bit too hot during interviews; needed to use a mic to isolate the interview from ambient noise, each interviewee's sound was low at the beginning of the interview--balance audio; need to tighten up the edits--too long--not all the information was relevant to the production--the stolen blog part was unnecessary-other parts unnecessary in telling the story

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School
- Entry Title: Kadiri's Kitchen: Boba!
- Entry Credit: Sadie Dowhan, Jordin Kadiri
- Judge Comment: good descriptive language of the different drinks; avoid jump cuts, I would not have introduced second person part way through--keep the focus--needed to be edited tighter--too long.

Third Place

- Contestant Name: Stevenson High School
- Entry Title: Community Features: Stevenson Drumline
- Entry Credit: Ansh Aggarwal
- Judge Comment: good subject, but leave off the text--should have a good script to VO over footage--not text on the screen. need to setup interviews, we should not hear the questions being asked--just the response having been appropriately set up--find a

reading on setting up the soundbite; don't have the responses to the same question back to back--pick one or the other, not both--unnecessary. edit tighter--too long; needed cutaways during the interviews; needed mic to isolate the ambient sound out; need better lighting on subject--too dark.

Competition Comment

Good stories relevant to students. Needed to edit tighter. Entries were too long. Need to be crisp in writing and let the video help tell the story. Use cutaway footage to avoid jump cuts. Use mics. Use tripods. Entries were fun to view. Keep up the good work. Watch professionals and critique evening news to help hone your craft.

BEST WEBSITE

First Place

- Contestant Name: Barrington High School
- Entry Title: The RoundUp Online
- Entry Credit: RoundUp Staff
- Judge Comment: Wow! This site looks very clean and crisp, and the homepage features a lot of content without it feeling cluttered or overwhelming. All of the images are super high-quality, and there's a wide variety of interesting content available (The Personalities Through Fashion story was super cool!). And I love that logo! If I could make one suggestion, it would just be to sprinkle in the multimedia content into the other categories as well so it doesn't only live in the "multimedia" tab on the site. So, for example, if there's coverage of a sports game, it would go in the "sports" tab as well as the "multimedia" tab. But other than that, incredible work!!

Second Place

- Contestant Name: Stevenson High School
- Entry Title: The Statesman
- Entry Credit: Lance Locker, Vivian Zhu
- Judge Comment: Wow! The website is super professional looking. I LOVE the font, the logo on the top, the letter to the editor feature (which I would love to read, by the way, so maybe consider adding those online too). The front page displays a wide variety of content without feeling overwhelming or cluttered. The photos are all super high quality and really add to the stories they're on, and the embedded images in articles also look incredible and (again) add more depth to the story. If I could make one suggestion, I would recommend more use of the sidebar (if possible) on pages other than the home page. That would fill out the screen a bit more and give you more opportunities to plug things like social media and newsletter/website update subscriptions. But other than that, excellent work!

Third Place

- Contestant Name: Evanston Township High School

- Entry Title: The Evanstonian
 - Entry Credit: Mack Jones
 - Judge Comment: First off, that logo on the top looks so cool! I love the little newsletter subscribe box in the sidebar. The embedded images and pull quotes and other moving elements in the articles are beautiful and help add more depth to the stories they're on. One suggestion I would make would be to change the way you format the attached article images on the topic pages (news, features, etc) so they show up differently. If the attached photo is too tall, it leaves weird white space between articles on that page. Maybe this different formatting would be to only use horizontal photos for those sorts of pictures, but there are definitely other solutions to that too. Other than that, great work!
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