

2026 IJEA NEWSPAPER & DIGITAL NEWS MEDIA CONTEST

DIVISION 1 BEST PUBLICATION WINNERS — Enrollment up to 599

The results for Best Publication are determined by the number of points accumulated in the 30 individual categories of the IJEA Newspaper & Digital News Media Contest.

- 1st place in a category = 5 points
- 2nd place in a category = 4 points
- 3rd place in a category = 3 points
- Honorable mention (HM) in a category = 1 point

BEST OVERALL PUBLICATION

(Most points regardless of publication type)

- 1st: The Purple Clarion — Harrisburg H.S., Krystal Wilson, adviser
- 2nd: Tiger News Today — Herscher H.S., Kerri Robinson, adviser
- 3rd: Launch Pad — Okawville H.S., Dana Donovan, adviser
- HM: The Spyglass — Galena H.S., Susan Bookless, adviser
- HM: LIFT News — LIFT Regional Area Career Center, Shad Huddleston & Zachary Smith, advisers
- HM: Cougar Chronicles — Crane Medical Preparatory H.S., Michele Drayton, adviser

BEST DIGITAL-ONLY PUBLICATION

(Most points by publication that appears online only)

- 1st: Launch Pad — Okawville H.S., Dana Donovan, adviser
- 2nd: The Spyglass — Galena H.S., Susan Bookless, adviser
- 3rd: LIFT News — LIFT Regional Area Career Center, Shad Huddleston & Zachary Smith, advisers

BEST PRINT-ONLY PUBLICATION

(Most points by publication that appears in print only)

- 1st: Tiger News Today — Herscher H.S., Kerri Robinson, adviser
- 2nd: Cougar Chronicles — Crane Medical Preparatory H.S., Michele Drayton, adviser

BEST HYBRID PUBLICATION

(Most points by publication that appears both in print and online)

- 1st: The Purple Clarion — Harrisburg H.S., Krystal Wilson, adviser