



# Columbia Scholastic Press Association

## 2025 National High School Journalism Teacher of the Year: Application Questions

1. How many years have you taught high school newspaper, yearbook, online or other media or led a similar club? Please indicate whether you advised a newspaper, website, newsmagazine, yearbook or multiple publications/media. Will you continue to advise next year in the same capacity?
2. Please discuss the publications you advise, summarizing course content, length, number of credits, and the number of students in each course (or club). Short descriptions are fine. It's helpful to include the frequency of publication, circulation (audience size), and school population.

If your publication has a website, what are its average monthly unique visitors? If you do not know, discuss how you track the overall engagement of your site. How do you incorporate different platforms into your overall media presence? For example, how often do you use video, audio, multimedia, etc.? In addition, please list your publication's social media accounts, and include engagement numbers. If you are unsure of engagement data, please include followers.

3. Please describe your school community, detailing how your class(es) and coverage reflect that population, and explain how your publication addresses diverse points of view. Please also give examples of how you have built trust and shown transparency while broadening students' perspectives through inclusive storytelling that incorporates equitable newsgathering and coverage.
4. Please include a description of your role, philosophy of instruction, and how you work with your students. Please include your approach to journalism/media career education and discuss improvements or innovations you have made to the journalism program at your school, including what have been your "wins" and "challenges."

5. How do you incorporate larger issues in journalism as part of your curriculum, such as artificial intelligence, news deserts, decline in trust, ethics, equity, equitable language, and misinformation/disinformation?
6. Please describe an instance or instances in the 2023-2024 academic year when challenging journalistic positions or decisions made by your publication(s) were opposed or supported by administrators, the local media, or the community. How did you respond?

If you did not encounter any issues, describe your overall approach to educating your students about their rights as journalists.

7. Did your publications or staffers win local, state, regional, and/or national awards during the 2023-2024 academic year? Please list.
8. Please list any awards and honors you have received as a journalism teacher or adviser in the past three years. Please also include your contributions in the past academic year to the profession of journalism education: blog posts, articles, or books on journalism and journalism education. This may also include how you have helped other journalism educators, such as media workshops you taught or mentorships. Please provide titles, web links, and dates.
9. Are you presently or have you been an officer in a local, regional, state or national journalism group? If not, how have you demonstrated leadership in your program or district?
10. Please outline a pressing issue facing scholastic journalism and how you would address it as Teacher of the Year.

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