



SAN DIEGO PRESS CLUB 2026 53rd EXCELLENCE IN COLLEGE JOURNALISM AWARDS

The Contest for students runs through Friday, August 14, and the Entry Deadline is Friday, September 11 at 11:59 p.m.

[Here is the link to instructions.](#)

ELIGIBILITY

Competition is open to San Diego County college students who have material published, broadcast, aired, or online during the contest period from **July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026.**

Entries to the 2026 San Diego Press Club 53rd Annual College Excellence in Journalism Awards will be submitted through [ACES \(link to contest page\)](#). The Excellence in Journalism Awards recognize outstanding achievements by individual professionals. Editors, news directors, and publishers may enter on behalf of employees or freelancers.

Questions related to the contest, ACES platform, or club, including membership (for emails, please put "EIJ 53 Support" in the subject line):

- Albert Fulcher, admin@sdpressclub.org or 858-215-1619 (text or call)

COLLEGE MEDIA: Entry fees for college students apply. For entries written for college publications, please enter at 2025 SDPC College Media Awards on the ACES site when that contest opens. **The deadlines are not the same as the professional contest.**

JUDGING

All entries will be judged by professional journalism organizations or individuals outside the contest area. The Awards Committee reserves the right to change the category in which entries are submitted and/or refuse entries that do not meet eligibility. In the case of an entry dispute, the decision of the committee will be final. Judges also have the right to determine that no award will be given in a category.

Entries in languages other than English or Spanish must include translation.

Below are directions for preparing and submitting entries using the new [ACES](#) platform.

Detailed instructions and categories are listed below. Important: The information you include in the entry form will appear on any plaques and/or certificates. Please confirm it is correct before submitting. Entrants will be responsible for the cost of corrections to plaques and/or certificates.

This is your account – you can return to it at any time during the call for entries time period – **until the deadline of Friday, September 11.** Once you have completed all your entries, document the amount due and enter it on the [payment portal using this link](#) to pay immediately or send a copy of your invoice with a check to:

**San Diego Press Club
302 Washington St. #441
San Diego, CA 92103**

ENTRY FEES

All forms of media - Per Entry

College membership: \$20

College entries: \$10

Have fun and best of luck to everyone! And we look forward to the 53rd Annual Excellence in Journalism Awards on Oct. 27. Stay tuned for updates, you will not want to miss this year's event!

Again, if you have any questions at all – please do not hesitate to call or email.

SAN DIEGO PRESS CLUB

2026 COLLEGE EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM AWARDS

COLLEGE CONTEST CATEGORIES

COLLEGE MEDIA - PRINT/ONLINE

Best Newspaper Submit up to three examples of the publication. No hard copies, please.

Best Magazine Submit up to three examples of the publication. No hard copies, please.

News

Feature

Column

Investigative

Opinion/Commentary

Reviews: *Movie, theater, performing arts, books, restaurant, television, etc.*

Sports

Photography

Drawing, Illustration or Cartoon *Includes political cartoons.*

Cover design

Feature story layout

COLLEGE MEDIA – TV AND ONLINE

VIDEO

Newscast

General News Story

Feature Reporting

Investigative Reporting

Sports Reporting

COLLEGE MEDIA – RADIO AND PODCAST

Newscast

General News Story

Feature Reporting

Investigative Reporting

Sports Reporting