



North Carolina Scholastic Media Association

N.C. High School Journalist of the Year Official Application

Sponsored by N.C. Scholastic Media Association and N.C. Press Foundation.

2024 transcripts, letters and all other materials may be emailed to ncsma@unc.edu.

The state winner will receive the Rachel Rivers-Coffey \$3,000 scholarship and will be eligible to compete in the national Journalism Education Association High School Journalist of the Year contest. The national winner will receive a \$3,000 scholarship. Alternates in each contest also receive scholarships.

Name (First, Middle Initial, Last): _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

School Name: _____

School Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

School Phone: _____

Adviser's Name: _____

Adviser's Email: _____ Adviser's Phone: _____

How long have you been involved in journalism? _____

Your entry will be judged on five of the following categories. Circle your five categories below:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Reporting and Writing | Web and Social Media |
| Editing, Leadership and Team Building | Law, Ethics and News Literacy |
| Design | Marketing and Audience Engagement |
| Broadcast Journalism | Commitment to Diversity |
| Photojournalism | |

Send a PDF version of at least one issue of your newspaper or magazine, or PDFs of relevant spreads from your yearbook (not the entire book) to ncsma@unc.edu, so the judges can see the context of your work. You may also mail your entries in with the rest of your contest material. If your entry focuses on broadcast work, email link to ncsma@unc.edu or mail a DVD. Time is limited to 15 minutes. If you email in entries, use the subject line "NC JOY."

Verification: The examples submitted are the student's original work.

Adviser's Signature

Student's Signature

Portfolio Checklist:

- Application form
- Self-analytical evaluation of your "journalistic life" using your most creative form
- Personal resume
- Official transcript
- Action photo of you doing something journalistic (i.e., interviewing someone or doing a broadcast segment)
- Three letters of recommendation from your adviser, other teachers who know your leadership and journalistic abilities, or practitioners with whom you have worked.
- At least five samples of your work carefully selected to show quality and diversity of reporting and writing, building, design, broadcast, photojournalism, etc.

Preparing Your Portfolio:

- Students have three options for submitting their portfolio: Email a PDF version to ncsma@unc.edu, mail to NCSMA as a notebook, or post as an online portfolio. If you choose to make an online portfolio, please email the link to ncsma@unc.edu with the subject line "NC JOY."
- Entry materials in the notebook or PDF options should not exceed 40 pages with application materials not to exceed an additional 10 pages as follows:
 - Application
 - Personal photo (1 page)
 - Self-analytical essay (1+ pages)
 - Recommendation letters
- The online portfolio must have all of the material listed above (including links to samples, an autobiographical essay, resume, photos, etc). If you choose this option, mail in recommendations and transcripts. For instructions on building an online portfolio, go to ncsma.unc.edu/students.
- Official transcripts must be **mailed or emailed** to NCSMA.
- Samples of work should be carefully selected. Provide judges with a good cross section of your best work rather than everything ever produced. Date, name of publication and relevance should accompany each sample, as well as an explanation/reasoning for each example. If you are sending in PDF versions of your samples, go to ncsma.unc.edu/students to find a template. A 25-50 word explanation should include any difficulties or special circumstances encountered during the assignment and why this entry was selected for the portfolio.
- Include samples from **five** of the categories listed to the left. Label and group each category. In lieu of samples, you may also submit a 250-word personal essay for the following categories:
 - Law, Ethics and News Literacy.
 - Editing, Leadership and Team Building.
- If submitting videos or other multimedia projects, email link to ncsma@unc.edu with your other application materials.

Email a PDF version/URL of your complete portfolio to ncsma@unc.edu, OR
Mail your materials to NCSMA, 284 Carroll Hall, CB#3365, UNC-Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC 27599
The portfolio should be received by Feb. 15.
Questions? Contact the NCSMA office at ncsma@unc.edu or 919-962-4639.