

## **ALASKA PRESS CLUB CONTEST**

(For journalism published or broadcast in 2023)

Early Deadline: **Feb. 2, 2024 at 6 p.m.** \$15 each

Final Deadline: **Feb. 16, 2024 at 6 p.m.** \$20 each

### **ANNUAL CONTEST ENTRY GUIDELINES**

Checklist for entries:

- Work must have been published or broadcast for the first time on or between the dates of **January 1, 2023** and **December 31, 2023**.
- All entries must be submitted as they were published or broadcast.
- A piece of work may only be entered once, unless otherwise indicated.
- In all categories, entries shall consist of a single piece of work, unless otherwise noted.
- Entrants are responsible for ensuring web links to submissions work and a password is supplied if needed to gain access to a site where entry is hosted.**
- Entrants must meet any additional entry guidelines for their respective field (listed in category descriptions below).

Other important information:

- There is no limit on the number of submissions you can enter in a given category.
- The entrant is responsible for choosing the proper category.
- Judges are under no obligation to award any prizes in categories with a small number of entries. Judges may choose not to award first place in any category no matter the number of entries. Judges are asked to provide feedback for first, second and third place.
- If the number of entries in a given category is too low for competition, entries may be moved to another fitting category.

### **ETHICS AND DISQUALIFICATIONS**

The Alaska Press Club promotes ethical journalism and recognizes that contest rules cannot envision every potential breach of professional standards. APC reserves the right to disqualify any entry or withdraw any award based on ethical violations as noted in the rules.

Because entries are submitted online, all entrants must agree that all entries have not been modified since the date of original publication. If an entry has been modified, the modification must be acknowledged and will be taken into account in the judging process. If an entry is disqualified, the prize will be awarded to the next place winner. Disqualified entrants will forfeit their entry fees. Entrants who attempt to contact judges will also be disqualified.

## DISCLAIMER

The Alaska Press Club takes great care handling and processing entries and is not responsible for lost or damaged entries, or entries improperly submitted. All entrants and sponsors agree to hold Alaska Press Club harmless from liability for any decision made in connection with the awards competition. Alaska Press Club promises to do its best to correct any problems brought to its attention.

## COMPETITIONS

Competing groups include: All Media, Video, Audio, Print/Online Large and Print/Online Small. If you believe your publication should compete in a different group, please email [alaskapressclubinfo@gmail.com](mailto:alaskapressclubinfo@gmail.com). Large and Small print/online are currently divided accordingly:

**Large print/online:** Any Alaskan who works for a wire service in Alaska, Alaska Beacon, Alaska Business Magazine, Anchorage Daily News, Anchorage Press, Alaska Magazine, Edible Alaska, Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, First Alaskans, Frontiersman, Juneau Empire, Ketchikan Daily News, Peninsula Clarion, Alaska's News Source, Alaska Public Media, and Alaskan freelancers for these publications or publications of similar size or circulation.

**Small print/online:** All small publications including Alaska Journal of Commerce, Arctic Sounder, Bristol Bay Times, Chilkat Valley News, Cordova Times, Daily Sitka Sentinel, Delta Discovery, Homer News, Kodiak Daily Mirror, Nome Nugget, The Northern Light, Petersburg Pilot, Petroleum News Alaska, Senior Voice, Skagway News, Sol de Medianoche, The Sun Star, and any Alaskan who freelances for these publications or publications of similar size or circulation.

## CATEGORIES

### All Media

Any Alaska journalist may enter work in All Media categories produced in any format unless specified. For example, "Best Humor" will include video, audio, print, blog, graphics, etc. However, for the "Best Online Video Journalism" category all entries must be video productions that have been featured online. Some All Media categories feature both a large and small competition. Please use your best judgment in determining which competition to enter. For example: If you shot a portrait photo for the Nome Nugget or KUCB Unalaska, you would compete in the small competition. If you shot a photo for Anchorage Daily News or Alaska Public Media, you would compete in the large competition.

<b>BEST ALASKA HISTORY REPORTING</b>	This category celebrates Alaska's rich history. Articles, radio and television broadcasts submitted can be about people, places and events that shaped this state. Submissions may also include oral histories in all media.
<b>BEST TRAVEL REPORTING</b>	A story focused on destinations and travel experiences in Alaska, this could include consumer tips, advice or analysis of a travel issue. Work done for commercial promotion is not eligible.
<b>LESLIE ANN MURRAY AWARD FOR BEST EDITORIAL OR COMMENTARY</b>	Submit one piece by a single writer working in any format.
<b>BEST ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING</b>	A single story or package on the environment as it relates to Alaska's homes, land, animals, industries and way of life.
<b>BEST FISHERIES REPORTING</b>	A single story or package on Alaska's fisheries as they relate to Alaska's people, economy, waters, industries, climate and more.
<b>BEST INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING</b>	One or more pieces that are the result of extensive research and original investigation. Judged for quality of investigation, public importance, effectiveness in presentation and technical skill. Entries may have been entered in another category as long as separate entry fees and forms are submitted.
<b>BEST LEGAL AFFAIRS REPORTING</b>	A single story on any aspect of law enforcement, courts, corrections and related areas.
<b>BEST FOOD REPORTING</b>	A single story, package or review about food or dining.
<b>BEST ALASKA OUTDOORS REPORTING</b>	From hunting to fishing stories to bear maulings, expeditions and non-competitive adventure and recreation, this category honors individual stories that convey Alaska's wild side.
<b>BEST HUMOR</b>	Submit one piece per entry, one entry per person. Entries may be entered in another category as long as separate entry fees and forms are submitted.
<b>BEST HEADLINE WRITING</b>	Any five headlines, along with their subheadlines, composed by the same person.
<b>VERN MCCORKLE AWARD FOR BEST BUSINESS REPORTING</b>	A single story on economic, business, financial, consumer or resource issues. Include host intro if applicable.

<b>BEST MULTIMEDIA PRESENTATION</b>	Honors the best presentation of a single story through various mediums (text, graphics, photography, audio, video, etc.)
<b>BEST NEWS PHOTO</b>	A single photo of a breaking or scheduled news event published in print or online.
<b>BEST PORTRAIT</b>	A single photo of a person or persons that reveals the essence of the subject's character, published in print or online.
<b>BEST SCENIC PHOTO</b>	A single photo that expresses the beauty and wonder of the Alaska landscape through composition, tonal and color relationships more than through human interaction, published in print or online.
<b>BEST FEATURE PHOTO</b>	A single image that falls outside straight news and may be of a light or serious nature, published in print or online.
<b>BEST SPORTS PHOTO</b>	A single photo from any sports event, published in print or online.
<b>BEST PICTURE STORY</b>	A group or sequence of up to 12 photos used to reveal a single storyline.
<b>BEST VIDEO JOURNALISM</b>	Submit a composite example illustrating excellence as a video journalist. Submissions must include selections from at least five different stories separated by one second of black. At least one complete story must be included in the composite. Multiple segments from the same story are not allowed. Must not exceed 10 minutes. Entries may have been entered in another category as long as separate entry fees and forms are submitted.
<b>BEST NATURAL SOUND VIDEO JOURNALISM</b>	Submit an example illustrating excellence as a video journalist with coverage using only natural sound and interviews; no voiced track. Entries may have been entered in another category.
<b>BEST NATURAL SOUND AUDIO STORY</b>	Submit an example illustrating excellence in audio journalism. Entries audio should be composed of a majority natural sound and interviews, some voiceover within a piece is ok. Entries for this category include vox-pops, audio postcards and similar pieces. Entries may have been entered in another category.
<b>BEST SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE</b>	Submit links to social media sites used by an individual reporter or news organization to communicate with an audience, i.e., Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, Tiktok etc. Entries should demonstrate effective engagement with the audience.
<b>BEST BLOG</b>	A blog featuring food, culture, family or other engaging topics relevant to everyday life.

<b>BEST SOLO JOURNALISM</b>	Multimedia entrant must be the person who wrote the story, (no double-bylines) took the photos, video, audio or created the graphics. Submit up to three examples. Entries may have been entered in another category as long as separate entry fees and forms are submitted.
<b>BEST SOLO VIDEO JOURNALISM</b>	Entrant must be the person who wrote the script, and shot/edited the video. Submit up to three examples. Entries may have been entered in another category as long as separate entry fees and forms are submitted.
<b>BEST SERIES</b>	Stories published or aired in sequence, covering an event or issue in-depth, conceived and presented as a series. Entries may have been entered in another category as long as separate entry fees and forms are submitted.
<b>BEST COMPREHENSIVE COVERAGE</b>	Up to five stories, published or aired over time, following developments in an ongoing news event. Entries may have been entered in another category as long as separate entry fees and forms are submitted.

**Print/Online-** Written work(s) are eligible for the Print/Online category. Works must be part of a printed journalism publication or journalism website.

<b>BEST ARTS &amp; CULTURE CRITICISM</b>	A single story reviewing or critiquing something arts and culture related, such as a restaurant review, an arts/entertainment event or an artistic work. (Large and small compete together.)
<b>BEST ARTS REPORTING</b>	A single story about any arts-related topics, event or person. (Large and small compete together.)
<b>BEST BREAKING NEWS STORY</b>	A single story written in a single day on an unscheduled news event; include 250-word letter on deadline circumstances. Entry may have been entered in another category as long as separate entry fees and forms are submitted. (Large and small compete together.)
<b>SUZAN NIGHTINGALE AWARD FOR BEST COLUMNIST</b>	Submit three examples. Sports columnists are not eligible. A columnist is someone who contributes to a publication on a regular, ongoing basis. (Large and small compete together.)
<b>BEST EDUCATION REPORTING</b>	A single report on an education topic or issue. (Large and small compete together.)
<b>BEST REPORTING ON GOVERNMENT OR POLITICS</b>	A single story concerning local, state or federal government, politics or campaigns.

<b>BEST MAGAZINE COVER</b>	Please submit link to PDF. (Large and small compete together.) Elements from magazines submitted in this category may be entered in other categories.
<b>BEST MAGAZINE DESIGN</b>	Please submit link to PDF. (Large and small compete together.)
<b>BEST WEEKLY NEWSPAPER</b>	Open to all weeklies. May publish more than once a week but not five days a week. Submit one issue from March, one from September, plus any third. No more than one individual may submit on behalf of a weekly publication. (Large and small compete together.) These entries may either be submitted as urls with pdfs of the covers of each issue, or they may be mailed. Please fill out an electronic entry and mail to Alaska Press Club · P.O. Box 143426 · Anchorage, AK 99514
<b>BEST LONG FEATURE</b>	A single feature more than 1,000 words. (Large and small compete together.)
<b>BEST PAGE LAYOUT &amp; DESIGN</b>	A full-page or double truck from any section of a publication dealing with a single topic or packaging a variety of unrelated stories and art. (Large and small compete together.)
<b>BEST PROFILE</b>	A single story highlighting an individual. Includes obituaries.
<b>BEST PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTING</b>	A single story that concerns the welfare and protection of the general public. This includes stories on policing, disasters, transportation, emergency management, rescue, etc.
<b>BEST REPORTING ON HEALTH</b>	A single report that highlights an important issue on health policy, public health or health sciences.
<b>BEST REPORTING ON SCIENCE</b>	A single report that explains a science topic or issue in an engaging, informative manner.
<b>BEST SHORT FEATURE</b>	A single feature up to 1,000 words.
<b>BEST SPORTS FEATURE</b>	A single story about any sports topic. (Large and small compete together.)
<b>BEST SPORTS REPORTING</b>	A single story of excellence. (Large and small compete together.)
<b>BEST MAGAZINE FEATURE</b>	A single feature written for a magazine. (Large and small compete together.)

<b>BEST SPORTS OR OUTDOORS COLUMN</b>	Best column about sports or the outdoors that expresses a strong perspective and is contributed on a regular basis to a publication. Submit three examples. (Large and small compete together.)
<b>BEST CULTURE REPORTING</b>	Story focused on the culture, communities, culture bearers and shared knowledge and practices—both traditional, contemporary and emerging—that make Alaska diverse and unique. Whether Yup'ik dancing in the Y-K Delta or skate parks in Urban Anchorage.

**Audio** - Audio productions broadcast by radio stations or published online or through streaming services are eligible for Audio categories.

<b>BEST ARTS REPORTING</b>	A single report about any arts-related topic, event or person. Include host intro if applicable.
<b>BEST NARRATIVE AUDIO PROGRAM</b>	Submit up to three examples of a program or podcast. No more than one individual may submit entries on behalf of a program. Judges will listen to at least 10 minutes of each program submitted.
<b>BEST INTERVIEW OR CALL-IN AUDIO PROGRAM</b>	Recurring interview or call-in audio programs or podcasts. Submit up to three examples. No more than one individual may submit entries on behalf of a program. Judges will listen to at least 10 minutes of each program submitted.
<b>BEST NEWSCAST</b>	For excellence in a regularly scheduled newscast. Post edits are not permitted except for the removal of commercials or underwriting. Entry will be judged on overall content, presentation, enterprise, writing, format, teases, etc. Time limit: 60 minutes. Judges will view at least 10 minutes of each program submitted. No more than one individual may submit entries on behalf of a program.
<b>BEST EDUCATION REPORTING</b>	A single report on an education topic or issue. Include host intro if applicable.
<b>BEST REPORTING ON GOVERNMENT OR POLITICS</b>	A single report concerning local, regional, state or federal government or politics or campaigns. Include host intro if applicable.
<b>BEST PROFILE</b>	A story highlighting an individual. Include host intro if applicable.
<b>BEST SOUND-RICH FEATURE</b>	A single story limited to 10 minutes or less, emphasizing use of sound. Include host intro if applicable.

<b>BEST PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTING</b>	A single story that concerns the welfare and protection of the general public. This includes stories on policing, disasters, transportation, emergency management, rescue, etc. Include host intro if applicable.
<b>BEST REPORTING ON HEALTH</b>	A single report highlighting an important issue in health policy, public health or the health sciences. Include host intro if applicable.
<b>BEST REPORTING ON SCIENCE</b>	A single report explaining a science topic or issue in an engaging, informative manner. Include host intro if applicable.
<b>BEST SAME-DAY FEATURE</b>	A general news feature, light feature or human-interest story. The submission must have been produced and published within 24 hours. Submit with or without a live element.
<b>BEST SPORTS REPORTING</b>	A single story of excellence. Include host intro if applicable.
<b>BEST CULTURE REPORTING</b>	Story focused on the culture, communities, culture bearers and shared knowledge and practices—both traditional, contemporary and emerging—that make Alaska diverse and unique. Whether Yup'ik dancing in the Y-K Delta or skate parks in Urban Anchorage. Include host intro if applicable.

**Video-** Video content which was broadcast on TV, published online or available through streaming services may be submitted for the Video categories.

<b>BEST NEWSCAST</b>	For excellence in a regularly scheduled newscast. Post edits are not permitted except for the removal of commercials. Entry will be judged on overall content, presentation, enterprise, writing, format, teases, etc. Time limit: 60 minutes. Judges will view at least 10 minutes of each program submitted.
<b>BEST NEWS REPORTING</b>	Honoring excellence in the production of one story on a general news topic. Include anchor intro if applicable.
<b>BEST BREAKING NEWS STORY</b>	A single story focused on an unscheduled and/or unfolding news event for which there was no opportunity for planning. The submission must have been produced and published within 24 hours. Include anchor intro if applicable.
<b>BEST SAME-DAY FEATURE</b>	A general news feature, light feature or human-interest story. The submission must have been produced and published within 24 hours. Submit with or without a live element. Include anchor intro if applicable.

<b>BEST FEATURE</b>	A single feature story, or a series of feature stories with or without live elements. Include anchor intro if applicable.
<b>BEST SPECIALTY NEWS PROGRAM</b>	Submit a one-time specialty news program focused on an event or issue. Submissions are judged on editorial selection, performance, technical proficiency, creativity, quality of pre-produced segments and topical relevance. Awarded to the entire news organization. Must not exceed 60 minutes. No more than one individual may submit on behalf of a program. Judges will view at least 10 minutes of each program submitted.
<b>BEST ARTS REPORTING</b>	A single story about any arts-related topics, event or person. Include anchor intro if applicable.
<b>BEST SPORTS REPORTING</b>	A single story of excellence. Include host or anchor intro if applicable.
<b>BEST CULTURE REPORTING</b>	Story focused on the culture, communities, culture bearers and shared knowledge and practices—both traditional, contemporary and emerging—that make Alaska diverse and unique. Whether Yup'ik dancing in the Y-K Delta or skate parks in Urban Anchorage. Include anchor intro if applicable.