



Exceptional Journalism Honored in 2024 College Better Newspaper Contest

Members of the Wisconsin Press Association reviewed 536 entries submitted by 17 Michigan college newspapers this year and selected three college newspapers for creating great journalism.

The 2024 “College Newspaper of the Year” award is presented to the top college newspapers in three divisions based on points accumulated (100 for first, 70 for second and 40 for third) in all editorial contest categories (categories 1-13). The winners of those awards are:

Division	College Newspaper
Division 1	Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo
Division 2	Michigan State University/ The State News
Division 3	Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate

Division 1 - Newspapers publishing more than weekly.

Division 2 - Newspapers publishing weekly.

Division 3 - Two-year college publications or newspapers publishing less than weekly.

"It is more important than ever to recognize and encourage good, impactful journalism. That is what our college newspapers are doing, and with support and recognition from contests and professionals in the field, that will continue. Our experienced faculty and advisors will see to it as well," said Joanne Williams, associate professor of journalism and mass communication at University of Olivet and MCPA president.

The 2025 MPA/MCPA College Newspaper Contest opens August 1, 2025.

Class 18 - News Story

Division 1 - Class 18 - News Story

22 Entries

1st Place **University of Michigan/ The Michigan Daily**

24 hours at the UMich Gaza solidarity encampment

The Michigan Daily News Staff

2nd Place **Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo**

Plumbing issues cloud fall move-in

Alex Kreps

3rd Place **Michigan State University/Capital News Service**

Proposed homeschooling registration sparks protests

Liz Nass

Division 2 - Class 18 - News Story

34 Entries

1st Place **Michigan State University/ The State News**

After shooting, MSU promised safety. It delivered surveillance

Theo Scheer, Alex Walters

2nd Place **Michigan State University/ The State News**

MSU trustee calls for board chair Vassar's removal

Alex Walters

3rd Place **Grand Valley State University/ Grand Valley Lanthorn**

GV student death, lack of University response voiced at student-led town hall

Max Bufkin

Division 3 - Class 18 - News Story

24 Entries

1st Place **Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate**

Sharp rise in GRCC students thinking of harming self, others while counseling center understaffed

Abby Haywood

2nd Place **Henry Ford Community College/ Mirror News**

A Celebration of Life and Community: The Excellence of the Black Woman Conference

Elizabeth Ezeoke

3rd Place **Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate**

Donald Trump visits Grand Rapids, uses murder of Ruby Garcia as campaign rally cry...

Alexa Cheaney

Class 19 - Investigative Reporting

Division 1 - Class 19 - Investigative Reporting

6 Entries

1st Place **University of Michigan/ The Michigan Daily**

Yaron Eliav up for promotion after sexual misconduct allegations

Sophia Lehrbaum, Nirali Patel and Julian Wray

2nd Place **Michigan State University/Capital News Service**

In conservative Livingston County, suburbia and Trump country collide

Ruth Thornton, Victor Woodell

3rd Place **Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo**

Reuse and Resell: Generation Z's bargain hunt drives thrift store market sales

Noah Cimaroli

Division 2 - Class 19 - Investigative Reporting

14 Entries

1st Place **Michigan State University/ The State News**

Student was told to trust MSU with rape report, then was disbelieved

Alex Walters

2nd Place **Grand Valley State University/ Grand Valley Lanthorn**

Sticker shock: why are GV C-Store prices so high?

Elizabeth Schanz

3rd Place **Grand Valley State University/ Grand Valley Lanthorn**

Media Monopoly: GV Athletics Media Interns Raise Concerns Over Intellectual Property

Bethann Long

Division 3 - Class 19 - Investigative Reporting

9 Entries

1st Place **Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate**

GRCC has an active shooter response video, professors aren't required to show it...

Blace Carpenter & Collegiate Staff

2nd Place **Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate**

GRCC professor presents white nationalist views during Gaza panel discussion, later says...

Abby Haywood & Blace Carpenter

3rd Place **Henry Ford Community College/ Mirror News**

Exploring Detroit's Arab American and Jewish Perspectives on the Israel-Hamas Conflict

Ali Seblini

Class 20 - Feature Story

Division 1 - Class 20 - Feature Story

28 Entries

1st Place **Michigan State University/Capital News Service**

A tale of a haunted lighthouse: Seul Choix Point's spirits

Kelsey Lester

2nd Place **Michigan State University/Capital News Service**

Researchers pioneer method to combat swimmer's itch by relocating ducks

Alex Walters

3rd Place **Michigan State University/ Great Lakes Echo**

Kids raise prehistoric fish as a science lesson

Jack Armstrong

Division 2 - Class 20 - Feature Story

19 Entries

Theo Scheer **Michigan State University/ The State News**

MSU's secret steam tunnels reveal hidden history beneath our feet

Theo Scheer

2nd Place **Hillsdale College/ The Collegian**

Professor's band debuts album in Italy

Ally Hall

3rd Place **Hillsdale College/ The Collegian**

Celebrating Easter in the Eternal City

Caroline Kurt

Division 3 - Class 20 - Feature Story

34 Entries

1st Place **Schoolcraft College/ The Connection**

Boom Boom into our hearts

Jessica Michael
2nd Place **Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice**
How jazz shaped black culture

Lily Cole
3rd Place **Monroe County Community College/ The Agora**
How an apprentice house painter became a world-renowned landscape artist
 Ashley Atkins

Class 21 - Sports News/Features

Division 1 - Class 21 - Sports News/Features

6 Entries
1st Place **University of Michigan/ The Michigan Daily**
Hockey streets and ice sheets, St. Louis and back again with Jake Barczewski

Lys Goldman
2nd Place **Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo**
EMU football's Brian Dooley surrenders his own athletic scholarship for walk-on Zack Conti

Blake McQueary
3rd Place **Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo**
EMU basketball court's new name honors record-holding leader
 Blake McQueary

Division 2 - Class 21 - Sports News/Features

21 Entries
1st Place **Albion College/ The Pleiad**
Albion Athletics in the Field of Sustainability
 Bonnie Lord

2nd Place **Hillsdale College/ The Collegian**
Jack Gohlke upsets March Madness
 Alex Deimel

3rd Place **Hillsdale College/ The Collegian**
Petersen brothers wrestling feature
 Sarah Katherine Sisk

Division 3 - Class 21 - Sports News/Features

18 Entries
1st Place **Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate**
Mohamed Tamour is poised to lead GRCC's first soccer squad to Regionals

Pierson VanGorp
2nd Place **Delta College/ Delta Collegiate**
National cornhole champion speaks

Norm Corron
3rd Place **Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate**
Detroit Lions fans go through wave of emotion as they watch NFC Championship

Blace Carpenter

Class 22 - Column, Review or Blog, News

Division 1 - Class 22 - Column, Review or Blog, News

21 Entries
1st Place **Michigan State University/ Great Lakes Echo**
New book explores a lifetime of Great Lakes resilience
 Reese Carlson

2nd Place **Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo**
Opinion: 3 local queer artists to follow this Pride Month and beyond
 Madison Cantrell

3rd Place **Michigan State University/ Great Lakes Echo**
Photobook illuminates the beauty of Michigan lighthouses
 Clara Lincolnhol

Division 2 - Class 22 - Column, Review or Blog, News

6 Entries
1st Place **Michigan State University/ The State News**
COLUMN: The best MSU FOIA redactions of 2023-2024
 Theo Scheer, Alex Walters

2nd Place **Albion College/ The Pleiad**
Opinion: From Dallas to Albion: Language's Importance as an Afro-Latine
 Naima Davenport

3rd Place **Albion College/ The Pleiad**
Opinion: Albion College Has a Long Way to Go Before it Can Truly Claim Accessibility
 Lindsay Ratcliffe

Division 3 - Class 22 - Column, Review or Blog, News

26 Entries
1st Place **Monroe County Community College/ The Agora**
Newsroom rights violated in careless act of 'concern'
 Mick Valentino

2nd Place **Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate**
Queer music is on the rise, and so is its importance
 Alexa Cheaney

3rd Place **Henry Ford Community College/ Mirror News**
"I'm A Virgo" is a Hugely Entertaining Satire of American Capitalism
 Ashley Davis

Class 23 - Column, Review or Blog, Sports

Division 1 - Class 23 - Column, Review or Blog, Sports

4 Entries
1st Place **University of Michigan/ The Michigan Daily**
SportsMonday: If Michigan is the best, who it plays next shouldn't matter

Paul Nasr
2nd Place **Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo**
From Canada to Campus: Callum Robinson's Journey of Triumph in Transforming EMU Track's Future

Elena Davis
3rd Place **Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo**
The Great Vannzee; the story of EMU Sports' superfan and celebrity
 Blake McQueary

Division 2 - Class 23 - Column, Review or Blog, Sports

12 Entries
1st Place **Michigan State University/ The State News**
COLUMN: Three MSU sports storylines to follow this year
 Thomas Cobb

Seiji McSwain **Albion College/ The Pleiad**
Opinion: Fair Shots: Closing the Gap in the WNBA
 Seiji McSwain

3rd Place **Albion College/ The Pleiad**
Opinion: Grass vs Turf, What the Sports World Has to Say
 Isaiah May

Division 3 - Class 23 - Column, Review or Blog, Sports

9 Entries
1st Place **Lansing Community College/ The Lookout**
LCC men run to NJCAA national title

Michael Leek
2nd Place **Schoolcraft College/ The Connection**
The push for equality in sports
 Isabelle Richmond
3rd Place **Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice**
State of Michigan sees historic sports month
 Caleb Henderson

Class 24 - Editorial

Division 1 - Class 24 - Editorial
 1 Entries
1st Place **University of Michigan/ The Michigan Daily**
From The Daily: Be the University FOR Michigan
 The Michigan Daily Editorial Board

Division 2 - Class 24 - Editorial
 3 Entries
1st Place **Western Michigan University/ The Western Herald**

Editorial: It's time to raise the SAF
 Cori Osterman
2nd Place **Grand Valley State University/ Grand Valley Lanthorn**

Elections and expirations: how old is too old to hold office?
 Staff
3rd Place **Grand Valley State University/ Grand Valley Lanthorn**

The possible death of Sports Illustrated is a sign of a bigger issues in journalism
 Staff

Division 3 - Class 24 - Editorial
 7 Entries
1st Place **Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate**

GRCC administrators need to send safety videos directly to students
 The Collegiate Staff
2nd Place **Delta College/ Delta Collegiate**

Bay City bridges a potential nightmare
 Staff
3rd Place **Henry Ford Community College/ Mirror News**

Editorial: Calling for Ceasefire in Gaza
 Staff

Class 25 - Best Writer

Division 1 - Class 25 - Best Writer
 4 Entries
1st Place **Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo**

Ameera Salman
2nd Place **Michigan State University/Capital News Service**
 Theo Scheer
3rd Place **Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo**
 Aaron Hughes

Division 2 - Class 25 - Best Writer
 12 Entries
1st Place **Michigan State University/ The State News**
 Theo Scheer
2nd Place **Michigan State University/ The State News**
 Alex Walters
3rd Place **Albion College/ The Pleiad**

Lindsay Ratcliffe
Division 3 - Class 25 - Best Writer
 11 Entries
1st Place **Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice**
 Caleb Henderson
2nd Place **Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate**
 Blace Carpenter
3rd Place **Delta College/ Delta Collegiate**
 Norm Corrion

Class 26 - Feature Photo

Division 1 - Class 26 - Feature Photo
 7 Entries
1st Place **Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo**
Gideon the Ghost
 Madison Cantrell

2nd Place **University of Michigan/ The Michigan Daily**
Best Mexican Food: Chela's
 Tess Crowley
3rd Place **Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo**

Madi Diaz at The Ark
 Madison Cantrell

Division 2 - Class 26 - Feature Photo
 14 Entries
1st Place **Michigan State University/ The State News**

Swimming senior
 Audrey Richardson
2nd Place **Albion College/ The Pleiad**
Opinion: Music Through the Seasons; Listen to the Stuff that Makes You Feel

Hannah Fathman
3rd Place **Michigan State University/ The State News**
Cattle caretaker
 Audrey Richardson

Division 3 - Class 26 - Feature Photo
 17 Entries
1st Place **Schoolcraft College/ The Connection**

Creeping' it real this Halloween
 Izabella Allie
Jessica Michael **Schoolcraft College/ The Connection**
Once in a lifetime experience
 Jessica Michael

3rd Place **Schoolcraft College/ The Connection**
Friends of monarchs
 Homayra Adiba

Class 27 - Front Page Design

Division 1 - Class 27 - Front Page Design
 4 Entries
1st Place **University of Michigan/ The Michigan Daily**
Victors
 Lys Goldman

2nd Place **Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo**
October 2, 2023 front page
 Kasey Deschler, Ameera Salman, Marie White

3rd Place **Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo**
October 9, 2023 front page
 Kasey Deschler, Ameera Salman, Marie White

Division 2 - Class 27 - Front Page Design

11 Entries

1st Place

Hillsdale College/ The Collegian

A1 - Sept. 21, 2023

Isaac Green

2nd Place

**Grand Valley State University/
Grand Valley Lanthorn**

Speaking out against superficial diversity

Rev Bronoski, Carlie Sherwood

3rd Place

**Grand Valley State University/
Grand Valley Lanthorn**

Free speech or hate speech?

Rev Bronoski, Carlie Sherwood

Division 3 - Class 27 - Front Page Design

11 Entries

1st Place

**Monroe County Community
College/ The Agora**

Front page design

Maggie Sandefur

2nd Place

Schoolcraft College/ The Connection

Front Page Design

Connection Staff

3rd Place

Henry Ford Community College/ Mirror News

Voyage to Victory

Falaah Abdun-Nur

Class 28 - Non-Front Page Design

Division 1 - Class 28 - Non-Front Page Design

4 Entries

1st Place

University of Michigan/ The Michigan Daily

No. 1

Lys Goldman

2nd Place

Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo

Page 2 News

The Eastern Echo Staff

3rd Place

Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo

Page 2 News

The Eastern Echo Staff

Division 2 - Class 28 - Non-Front Page Design

10 Entries

Michael Bachmann

Hillsdale College/ The Collegian

Features - Jan. 25, 2024

Michael Bachmann

2nd Place

Hillsdale College/ The Collegian

Sports Page - Feb. 22, 2024

Thomas McKenna

3rd Place

**Grand Valley State University/
Grand Valley Lanthorn**

Beekeeper club promotes sustainability and awareness

Rev Bronoski, Carlie Sherwood

Division 3 - Class 28 - Non-Front Page Design

9 Entries

1st Place

Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice

Did someone say cookies?

Jada Hauser

2nd Place

Schoolcraft College/ The Connection

Remember who the real enemy is

Connection Staff

3rd Place

Henry Ford Community College/ Mirror News

The Vintage Market Expands to New Venues

Ashley Demario

Class 29 - Best News-Only Photo

Open - Class 29 - Best News-Only Photo

17 Entries

1st Place

University of Michigan/ The Michigan Daily

Hundreds of UMich students walk out for Palestine

Jeremy Weine

2nd Place

Michigan State University/ The State News

Gingers

Brianna Schmidt

3rd Place

Michigan State University/ The State News

Solidarity

Brendan Mullin

Class 30 - Best Sports Photo

Open - Class 30 - Best Sports Photo

32 Entries

1st Place

Michigan State University/ The State News

MSU basketball

Brendan Mullin

2nd Place

Michigan State University/ The State News

Dunk

Donté Smith

3rd Place

Michigan State University/ The State News

MSU tennis

Fatih Imamoglu

Class 31 - Best Photographer

Open - Class 31 - Best Photographer

16 Entries

1st Place

Michigan State University/ The State News

Brendan Mullin

2nd Place

**Grand Rapids Community
College/ Collegiate**

Blace Carpenter

3rd Place

University of Michigan/ The Michigan Daily

Lila Turner

**Class 32 - Original Cartoon - Editorial or
Entertainment**

Open - Class 32 - Original Cartoon - Editorial or Entertainment

14 Entries

1st Place

**Grand Rapids Community
College/ Collegiate**

Things I Overheard on Campus

Abby Haywood

2nd Place

Michigan State University/ The State News

House Party

Jack Williams

3rd Place

Albion College/ The Pleiad

Original Cartoon—Editorial or Entertainment: Bonnie Lord

Bonnie Lord

Class 33 - Multimedia Reporting

Open - Class 33 - Multimedia Reporting

7 Entries

1st Place **Western Michigan University**
/ The Western Herald

Josie and Josey, WMU's Favorite Duo

Aidan Ralko

2nd Place **Michigan State University/ The State News**

The Hunt for Michigan's most sought-after fish

Jack Armstrong

3rd Place **Henry Ford Community College/ Mirror News**

"Found in Translation" at the Library Street Collective in Detroit

Rattanna Abdellatif

Class 34 - Single Ad

Open - Class 34 - Single Ad

4 Entries

1st Place **Henry Ford Community College/ Mirror News**

Black History Month

Wagiha Alhalabi

2nd Place **Henry Ford Community College/ Mirror News**

LAND Conference 2024

Destiny Little

3rd Place **Schoolcraft College/ The Connection**

Schoolcraft Connection want to be featured in the paper?

Izabella Allie

Class 36 - Online Newspaper

Open - Class 36 - Online Newspaper

5 Entries

1st Place **Albion College/ The Pleiad**

Online Newspaper: The Albion Pleiad

Staff

2nd Place **Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate**

Online Newspaper

Collegiate Staff

3rd Place **Schoolcraft College/ The Connection**

Online Newspaper

Schoolcraft Connection