

EPA Contest

AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

EPA's annual contest spans two categories: the **Awards of Excellence** and **Higher Goals**.

Awards of Excellence

EPA's Awards of Excellence competition honors overall excellence. Judges in this category evaluate a number of criteria, including writing quality, content choices and design. Members compete only against publications in their same category.

Each entry receives a completed critique sheet by a professional industry judge with one Award of Excellence granted to the best entry. One or more Awards of Merit may be bestowed on other top entries, at the discretion of the judges and contest officials.

There are two divisions: **Print** and **Digital**. Each member publication can enter only the print or digital Awards of Excellence division in which it is a member. Print publication members have the option to hold a dual membership (print and digital) and enter in both the print and digital Awards of Excellence divisions.

Print members

Two consecutive issues must be submitted by mail.

Judging criteria in the print division include: Quality of writing | Variety and balance of content | Journalistic creativity | Design and typography | Use of illustrations/photos

Digital members

The judge will review the online content from submitted URLs. Please double check that all of your links work so the judge has access to your content. Provide login access if your website requires it.

Judging criteria in the digital division include: Quality of writing | Variety and balance of content | Journalistic creativity | Website design/aesthetics | Website usability/navigation/mobile responsiveness

The categories in the Awards of Excellence are:

Print

- 101 Campus:** A print newspaper or magazine produced by students.
- 102 Christian Ministry:** A print publication that serves workers in Christian education, churches, or other ministries and/or that educates readers about a certain area of ministry.
- 103 Denominational:** A print publication serving as the official voice of a denomination.
- 104 Devotional:** A print publication offering daily devotional readings and Bible studies to inspire readers.
- 105 General:** A general-interest print publication that is not the voice of an organization or a denomination.
- 106 Higher Ed:** An institutional publication that is the official voice of a college, university, or seminary.
- 107 Missions:** A print publication with a theme of missionary evangelism ("home" and/or "international").

- 109 Newspaper:** A newspaper-format print publication, generally, but not exclusively, serving a geographical area with timely news.
- 110 Organizational:** A print publication that is the official voice of a group other than a denomination.
- 111 Youth:** A print publication intended for youth audiences up to college-age.

Digital

NOTE: Print publication members may only submit in a digital category if they hold dual membership in both print and digital (with the exception of Campus publications which may enter either or both).

- 201 Campus:** A digital publication or content-rich website produced by students.
- 202 Christian Ministry:** A digital publication or content-rich website that serves workers in Christian education, churches, or other ministries.
- 203 Denominational:** A digital publication or content-rich website serving as the official voice of a denomination.
- 204 Devotional:** A digital publication or content-rich website offering daily devotional readings and Bible studies to inspire readers.
- 205 General:** A general-interest digital publication or content-rich website that is not the voice of an organization or denomination.
- 206 Higher Ed:** A digital publication or content-rich website that is the official voice of a college, university, or seminary.
- 207 Missions:** A digital publication or content-rich website with a theme of missionary evangelism (“home” and/or “international”).
- 208 E-newsletter:** **Discontinued and moved to Higher Goals**
- 209 Newspaper/Online News:** A digital newspaper or content-rich website generally, but not exclusively, serving a geographical area with timely news.
- 210 Organizational:** A digital publication or content-rich website that is the official voice of a group other than a denomination.
- 211 Youth:** A digital publication or content-rich website intended for youth audiences up to college-age.

Other

- 301 Most Improved (print division only):** A print publication that has made significant content and/or design changes in the past year. (Mail two consecutive issues from this year, and the two corresponding issues from the previous year.)