



## **2017 NFPW HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS CONTEST WINNERS; 119 STUDENTS TAKE NATIONAL HONORS**

MECHANICSVILLE, Va. – The National Federation of Press Women Education Fund, sponsor of the 2017 NFPW High School Communications Contest, has announced national awards to 119 student winners. The national Youth Awards Luncheon, hosted by the NFPW Education Fund Board, was held September 9 at the 2017 NFPW Communications Conference in Birmingham, Alabama.

The annual NFPW high school competition is one of only a few nationwide communications contests for high school students. The competition offers 23 categories, including news, feature, and column writing, photography, radio and television, videos, and graphic design. Students initially compete at the state level, with first-place winners advancing to the national competition.

In 2017, 168 students, who individually or as teams created 168 of the 1,292 entries in statewide affiliate contests, advanced to the national level. Of them, 119 students received national honors for 88 of the print-based or online entries that were published in a newspaper, literary magazine, yearbook or via a website, or were broadcast on a high school radio or television station.

One entry, a sports story from Allen High School in Allen, Texas, was named the Award of Excellence (“Best of the Best”) winner. The first-place entries from all 23 categories were judged for this third tier of the competition to get the sole winner. Judging was based on how successfully each entry had followed its individual category descriptor.

NFPW – a nationwide organization of women and men with diverse roles in the field of communications – provides the three-tier contest in the belief that it is vital to encourage the next generation to pursue excellence and perhaps careers in the rapidly changing field of journalism and the broader field of communications. There are many contest benefits. Journalism advisers use the contest as an incentive and learning tool. And students receive constructive critiques from expert judges to help them improve their work. Winners receive certificates and recognition at state and national award ceremonies. These prestigious awards can boost students’ confidence and enhance future college or job applications. Visit the NFPW High School Communications Contest webpage at <http://nfpw.org/highSchoolContest.php>.

The NFPW Education Fund Board is pleased to announce: NFPW 2017 High School Communications Contest National Award Winners. Below are the results of the national judging in the 2017 NFPW high school journalism competition.

### **AWARD OF EXCELLENCE (BEST OF THE BEST)**

Parker Primrose and Jackson Stone

“Tackling Concussions” (sports story)  
Allen High School - Allen, Texas  
Adviser: Kelly Juntunen

## **1. EDITORIAL**

1<sup>st</sup> place

TKC Staff  
“Call Ed: To thine own self be true”  
Kirkwood High School - Kirkwood, Missouri  
Adviser: Mitch Eden  
*Hands down, the best of the best! Speaks to the heart of an epidemic at so many schools nationwide. Offers great insight into why this is done – by honors students no less – and how this serious issue needs to be addressed by both the administration and students.*

2<sup>nd</sup> place

Sian Rhodes  
“Illiteracy hurts student, family and community”  
Bishop Chatard High School - Indianapolis, Indiana  
Adviser: Tracey Luke

3<sup>rd</sup> place

Julia Zaksek, Evan Kalvesmaki  
“The Eagle Angle Stands Beside Sitting Students”  
Allen High School - Allen, Texas  
Adviser: Kelly Juntunen

honorable mention

Ashton Moreland  
“Hear Me Roar”  
Har-Ber High School - Springdale, Arkansas  
Adviser: Karla Sprague

## **2. OPINION**

1<sup>st</sup> place

Morgan Biles  
“Locked Lips”  
Shawnee Mission East High School - Prairie Village, Kansas  
Adviser: Dow Tate  
*The writer is raw, vulnerable, and open. An exceptional writer, she took what could have been a very cliched, taboo topic and turned it into a serious, philosophical conversation on the human experience and defining one's self worth. Fantastic work. Keep sharing your story and perspective, no matter how scary it may be.*

2<sup>nd</sup> place

Katie Look  
“I am not afraid of dying, but I am afraid of death”  
Palo Alto High School - Palo Alto, California  
Adviser: Paul Kandell

3<sup>rd</sup> place

Erinn Aulfinger  
“Serious Business”  
Lakota East High School - Liberty Township, Ohio  
Adviser: Dean Hume

honorable mention

Sanha Lim  
“Moving Forward”  
Maine West High School - Des Plaines, Illinois  
Adviser: Laurie McGowan

### **3. NEWS STORY**

- 1<sup>st</sup> place Emma Stiefel  
“Transgender Transparency”  
Lakota East High School - Liberty Township, Ohio  
Adviser: Dean Hume  
*Top-notch. Good, readable story with lively, human-sounding quotations from the subjects. (Many news stories sound as if robots are speaking.) The writing is clear, the organization is straightforward, and the pacing is excellent.*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place Brian Szipszky  
“Chorus performance at Melania Trump rally scheduled, cancelled”  
Malvern Preparatory School - Malvern, Pennsylvania  
Adviser: Kate Plows
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place Heidi Kim  
“Hockaday enjoys the completion of the new Center for the Arts”  
The Hockaday School - Dallas, Texas  
Adviser: Ana Rosenthal
- honorable mention Chester Bryant, Emma Davidson  
“A new, controversial monthly test rankles school board, educators, students”  
Perry Meridian High School - Indianapolis, Indiana  
Adviser: Kathleen Schuckel

### **4. FEATURE STORY**

- 1<sup>st</sup> place Daisy Bolin, Morgan Biles  
“A Life Well Lived”  
Shawnee Mission East High School - Prairie Village, Kansas  
Adviser: Dow Tate  
*A touching article. The reporters are commended for their courage in taking it on. Details such as a tear rolling down a cheek really set the tone, as do comments both humorous and affectionate from the visitors—and what is left unsaid in the text. It feels as though the reader is in the room with the coach and his family. This is the best written story in terms of content, organization, grammar, style and, most important in this case, tone. Finding the most appropriate tone for the subject matter and maintaining it from start to finish is a sure sign of a sensitive, astute, careful writer, and this tone is pitch perfect, a perfect reflection of everyone's mixed feelings. The reader gets the sense that the writers care deeply about their subjects and about doing the story well for the coach, his family and friends. In a category with many good entries, this story really stands out.*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place Patrick Ferraiolo, Ben Yankelitis  
“Commitment”  
Malvern Preparatory School - Malvern, Pennsylvania  
Adviser: Kate Plows
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place Makayla Nerpel  
“Acceptance Without Exception”  
Allen High School - Allen, Texas  
Adviser: Kelly Juntunen
- honorable mention Derek Yen, Katherine Zhang  
“A new era for gene editing”  
The Harker School - San Jose, California

Adviser: Ellen Austin

## **5. SPORTS STORY**

1<sup>st</sup> place

Parker Primrose, Jackson Stone

“Tackling Concussions”

Allen High School - Allen, Texas

Adviser: Kelly Juntunen

*This is what high school journalism, or journalism in any sense, is all about. Taking a serious issue that has relevance to your audience and reporting it well. This story captured attention, provided context, interviewed sources, used relevant graphics and information and was generally well reported. This piece is well deserving of first place in this competition. Great work.*

2<sup>nd</sup> place

Sian Rhodes, Kacee Haslett, Marissa Almack, Abby McDonald, Jacob deCastro

“Kneeling during National Anthem sparks debate”

Bishop Chatard High School - Indianapolis, Indiana

Adviser: Tracy Luke

3<sup>rd</sup> place

Natalie Trzeciak

“Showing the boys who’s boss”

Huntley High School - Huntley, Illinois

Adviser: Dennis Brown

honorable mention

Schylar Voshell

“It’s all fun and games until someone gets hurt”

Timberline High School - Boise, Idaho

Adviser: Jeremy Bronner

## **6. Columns/Blogs**

1<sup>st</sup> place

Elizabeth Guo

“Miss STEM: November review”

“Miss STEM: A belated book review”

The Hockaday School - Dallas, Texas

Adviser: Ana Rosenthal

*Tough decision, but these rose above the rest. Interesting, well-written, mature, portrays the columnist as a likeable person. Very mature book review.*

2<sup>nd</sup> place

Cara Satullo

“Time Wasted”

“Commercializing Christmas”

Lakota East High School - Liberty Township, Ohio

Adviser: Dean Hume

3<sup>rd</sup> place

Brooke Riley

“Escape negative influences; create your own body image”

“Why the holidays are important”

Bellevue West High School - Bellevue, Nebraska

Adviser: Julie Rowse

honorable mention

Whitney Knorp

“You’re moving to Canada, eh?”

“Creativity is lost in the educational system”

Granite Bay High School - Granite Bay, California

Adviser: Karl Grubaugh

## **7. NEWS/FEATURE PHOTO**

- 1<sup>st</sup> place Benjamin Batchelor  
"Spelling Bee photo"  
Haas Hall Academy - Fayetteville, Arkansas  
Adviser: Karen Henry  
*Quick reaction caught an emotional moment, and good viewpoint included several story-telling aspects in the same frame – the spontaneous reaction of the winner and the continued involvement of the runner-up. Congratulations!*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place Maiana Wells  
"Craving social media"  
Lakota East High School - Liberty Township, Ohio  
Adviser: Dean Hume
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place Halley Lin-Jones  
"Every 15 Minutes photograph"  
Castro Valley High School - Castro Valley, California  
Adviser: Matt Johanson
- honorable mention Iliana Ramirez  
"Serenading his Siblings"  
Jersey Village High School - Houston, Texas  
Adviser: Margie Comstock

## **8. Sports Photo**

- 1<sup>st</sup> place Diana Percy  
"Home Stretch"  
Shawnee Mission East High School - Prairie Village, Kansas  
Adviser: Dow Tate  
*The image has everything you want in a sports photo: You can see the players' eyes, great expressions, you have peak action and everything is in focus. Keep shooting like this and you will always have a great photo.*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place Elliot Choy  
"Constant Pressure"  
Carmel High School - Carmel, Indiana  
Adviser: Jim Streisel
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place David Dulton  
"Slam Dunk"  
Bryant High School - Bryant, Arkansas  
Adviser: Lisa Stine
- honorable mention Jacob Schoenfeld  
"Swimming Photo"  
Castro Valley High School - Castro Valley, California  
Adviser: Matt Johanson

## **9. CARTOONING**

- 1<sup>st</sup> place Lynn Fong  
"I Don't See Race"

Sage Hill School - Newport Coast, California

Adviser: Konnie Krislock

*This is a very elegantly handled way of showcasing a problem inherent in modern race relations. The message of the piece is very clear, and it invokes a true sense of pathos by not demonizing the person who may not understand what she is saying. From an illustration standpoint, the style of the piece works.*

2<sup>nd</sup> place

Angeline Stein

"Angeline Stein cartoon"

Emmaus High School - Emmaus, Pennsylvania

Adviser: Denise Reaman

3<sup>rd</sup> place

Sarah Aftab

"Science: A Useless Study"

Lakota East High School - Liberty Township, Ohio

Adviser: Dean Hume

honorable mention

Piper Hart

"Thanksgiving Dinner"

Haas Hall Academy - Fayetteville, Arkansas

Adviser: Karen Henry

## **REVIEW**

1<sup>st</sup> place

Laurice Cropelin

"'Only Ever Yours' will give readers whole new perspective on society"

Alexis I. DuPont High School - Wilmington, Delaware

Adviser: Victoria Kohl

*Extremely difficult topic handled with aplomb! The lead is a grabber. Both the sentences and the paragraphs are short and dynamic, building the tension that befits the critic's narrative goal. The love/hate ending is also well-stated: So hard to "like" something like this, but attention must be paid. Brava!*

2<sup>nd</sup> place

Ariel Cordova

"'Xanadu Jr.' turns heads with big hair, bright colors, leg warmers"

Borah High School - Boise, Idaho

Adviser: Michelle Harmon

3<sup>rd</sup> place

Maria Katsulos

"A Fantastic Beast of a Film"

The Hockaday School - Dallas, Texas

Adviser: Ana Rosenthal

honorable mention

Erinn Aulfinger

"Starboy"

Lakota East High School - Liberty Township, Ohio

Adviser: Dean Hume

## **11. GRAPHICS/PHOTO ILLUSTRATION**

1<sup>st</sup> place

Vivian Nguyen

"Third Wave"

Palo Alto High School - Palo Alto, California

Adviser: Paul Kandell

*Very impressive graphic that helps tells a story. Color treatment is done well and the use of red ties the page together. Well done.*

- 2<sup>nd</sup> place Elizabeth Guo  
"Inside the University of Texas Schools' Tuition"  
The Hockaday School - Dallas, Texas  
Adviser: Ana Rosenthal
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place Chelsea Dai  
"Chinese New Year"  
Carmel High School - Carmel, Indiana  
Adviser: Jim Streisel
- honorable mention Cassia Chryssovergis  
"Evolution of Zoos"  
Lakota East High School - Liberty Township, Ohio  
Adviser: Dean Hume

## **12. SINGLE-PAGE LAYOUT**

- 1<sup>st</sup> place Lauryn Walker  
"Kenny with the Shirts"  
Cy-Fair High School - Cypress, Texas  
Adviser: Craig Malinsky  
*Marvelous layout! Great use of white space with colorful graphic elements grabs your attention. It's very catchy and makes me want to stop and read it. The designer found a brilliant way to take the subject matter and make it fun. Very clean look, and I love how his shirt almost acts as a subhead!*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place Yashi Wang  
"Every Journey Begins with Play"  
Shawnee Mission East High School - Prairie Village, Kansas  
Adviser: Dow Tate
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place Maya Kumur  
"Whitewashed"  
The Harker School - San Jose, California  
Adviser: Ellen Austin
- honorable mention Ethan Rowley, Chase Bennett  
"Election Issue: Front Page"  
Malvern Preparatory School - Malvern, Pennsylvania  
Adviser: Kate Plows

## **13. DOUBLE-TRUCK LAYOUT**

- 1<sup>st</sup> place Lilly St. Angelo  
"Fall Festivals of Faith"  
Carmel High School - Carmel, Indiana  
Adviser: Jim Streisel  
*I love the visual crispness of this layout...very clean, with the right mix of white background and color. Photo placement is spot-on. I really like the grouping of four photos, with the "floating" photo on the same page. The graphic elements are well-balanced and they make the eye maneuver easily around the spread. I like that you*

*didn't "overuse" too many colors, and that the colors you chose balance well with the photos. The overall spread design is very visually balanced and pleasing.*

2<sup>nd</sup> place                      Jacob DeFay  
"College auditions challenge seniors"  
Southside High School - Fort Smith, Arkansas  
Adviser: Susan Colyer

3<sup>rd</sup> place                        Meilan Steimle  
"In the Rear View Mirror"  
The Harker School - San Jose, California  
Adviser: Ellen Austin

honorable mention        Ashna Kumar, Manisha Ratakonda  
"Let's Talk About Sex"  
The Hockaday School - Dallas, Texas  
Adviser: Ana Rosenthal

#### **14. ENVIRONMENT**

1<sup>st</sup> place                        Nicole Shair  
"The world is ending, and we're going with it"  
Cy-Fair High School- Cypress, Texas  
Adviser: Craig Malinsky  
*This story is very well written, and it's clear that the author has a distinct voice and future in journalism.*

2<sup>nd</sup> place                        Ava Mandele, Erika Leeper, Caitlyn Rawers  
"The heat: growing concern"  
Kaneland High School- Maple Park, Illinois  
Adviser: Kimberly Reese

3<sup>rd</sup> place                        Mari Herver  
"Back to Nature"  
Haas Hall Academy - Fayetteville, Arkansas  
Adviser: Karen Henry

honorable mention        Greg Guinasso  
"Demise of honey bees: from sweet success to stinging decline"  
Archbishop Riordan High School - San Francisco, California  
Adviser: Susan Sutton

#### **15. RADIO PREPARED REPORT (soft feature/audio postcard)**

1<sup>st</sup> place                        Jared Munoz, Shamar'ra Rombawa  
"Rising College Tuition"  
Mount Pleasant High School - Wilmington, Delaware  
Adviser: Paul Lewis Wishengrad  
*Music bridges added an inviting dimension to the show and smoothed the path between segments. Excellent voice-over set-ups and intros. Technically this is a complex show where advance research and detailed editing skills shine. The time invested in editing enhanced the informative and captivating show. Congratulations on a job well done – a job that obviously entailed lots of time in the crafting.*

#### **16. RADIO/TELEVISION INTERVIEW OR TALK SHOW**



- 1<sup>st</sup> place Shane Hogan  
 "Football Interview"  
 Homewood-Flossmoor High School - Homewood, Illinois  
 Adviser: Mark Cielielski  
*Excellent! Relaxed, confident voice of the host comes through clearly – engaging the listener. Listener attention is masterfully retained via insightful, informed questions with deft lead-in set-ups. Congratulations on a first-class production on par with ESPN!*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place Laura Gaskin  
 "Football Pre-Game Talk Show - Championship Interviews"  
 Wynne High School - Wynne, Arkansas  
 Adviser: Jane Andrews
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place Brian Barisa  
 "Blazing New Trails - LTHS Band"  
 Frisco ISD Career and Technical Education Center - Frisco, Texas  
 Adviser: Eva Coleman

#### **17. BEST NEWSCAST: RADIO OR TELEVISION**

- 1<sup>st</sup> place Emily Broadwell, Paige Shubert, Preston Ellsworth, Carter Terry, Jeremiah Ivers, Cassie Pokorney, Katie Smallwood  
 "November 2016 N3 Broadcast"  
 Northwest High School - Grand Island, Nebraska  
 Adviser: Elizabeth Kavan  
*How could you not like "Dancing with the Staff"? You could have extended the broadcast and run a whole dance number. Good job, group.*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place Sophie Penn  
 "Protesters and lawyers show support at SFO"  
 Carlmont High School - Belmont, California  
 Adviser: Karl Grubaugh
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place Abby Loden, Becca Burke, Meagan Mize  
 "KMBT Newscast"  
 Midway High School - Waco, Texas  
 Adviser: Jamie Beavers
- honorable mention Amelia Giordano, Caty Gallo, Rachel Baker, Katie Szczerba, Natalie Onesi, Grace Taggart, Becky Romaines  
 "PATV 12/16/16"  
 Padua Academy - Wilmington, Delaware  
 Adviser: Dennis Leizear

#### **18. VIDEO NEWS STORY**

- 1<sup>st</sup> place Lauren Goodman, Miranda Alexander, Erin Davis  
 "Smooth Landing"  
 Frisco ISD Career and Technical Education Center - Frisco, Texas  
 Adviser: Eva Coleman  
*Super: Good script, good announcer, good story, high quality. Excellent.*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place Rachel Baker, Amelia Giordano  
 "Joe Biden Welcome Home"  
 Padua Academy - Wilmington, Delaware

Adviser: Dennis Leizear

3<sup>rd</sup> place Collin Gallimore, Caringtan Salazar  
"Dance Team"  
Lakeside High School - Hot Springs, Arkansas  
Adviser: Chris Slaton

honorable mention Emma Stiefel  
"Lakota's Summer Lunch Program"  
Lakota East High School - Liberty Township, Ohio  
Adviser: Dean Hume

### **19. VIDEO FEATURE STORY**

1<sup>st</sup> place Chloe Hooker, Katie Judd, Jane Stewart  
"Draw It Out: Depression"  
Kirkwood High School - Kirkwood, Missouri  
Adviser: Mitch Eden  
*First of all, the production values are spectacular. What a creative and inventive way to deal with a tough subject. I hope the state and the local school district are aware of this work and can find a way to push the video out to all schools.*

2<sup>nd</sup> place Nick Henrichs, Mitchell Francis  
"Louder than a Bomb"  
Westside High School - Omaha, Nebraska  
Adviser: Jerred Zegelis

3<sup>rd</sup> place Mary Kate Sunderman  
"Battle Ready"  
Frisco ISD Career and Technical Education Center - Frisco, Texas  
Adviser: Eva Coleman

honorable mention Anna Lane  
"Eva Kor"  
Homewood-Flossmoor High School - Homewood, Illinois  
Adviser: Mark Ciesielski

### **20. VIDEO SPORTS STORY**

1<sup>st</sup> place Ashley Jackson  
"Movement Matters"  
Frisco ISD Career and Technical Education Center - Frisco, Texas  
Adviser: Eva Coleman  
*Excellent feature with good mix of sources/interviews, great b-roll.*

2<sup>nd</sup> place Nick Henrichs  
"Rodeo Queen"  
Westside High School - Omaha, Nebraska  
Adviser: Jerred Zegelis

3<sup>rd</sup> place Kai Oda, Tiffany Lang  
"Performance Racing"  
Palo Alto High School - Palo Alto, California  
Adviser: Paul Kandell

honorable mention      Liam O'Connor, Ronnie Simon  
"Field Hockey"  
Homewood-Flossmoor High School - Flossmoor, Illinois  
Adviser: Mark Ciesielski

## **21. YEARBOOK LAYOUT**

1<sup>st</sup> place      Nicole Stuessy  
"Home Team"  
McKinney High School - McKinney, Texas  
Adviser: Alyssa Boehringer  
*Nice use of a dominant picture that helps tell a good story.*

2<sup>nd</sup> place      Alexis Hawley  
"Homecoming"  
Noblesville High School - Noblesville, Indiana  
Adviser: Samantha Deane

3<sup>rd</sup> place      Grace Guzman  
"Altered"  
Bryant High School - Bryant, Arkansas  
Adviser: Lisa Stine

honorable mention      Allison Hensley, Sarah Minerath, Lindsey Meyer, Seth Lave  
"Sharp Shooters"  
Coeur d'Alene High School - Coeur d'Alene, Idaho  
Adviser: Bruce Twitchell

## **22. YEARBOOK PHOTO**

1<sup>st</sup> place      Kenzi Brenton  
"MVP"  
Bryant High School - Bryant, Arkansas  
Adviser: Lisa Stine  
*This photo does a good job of capturing the emotion of the MVP along with her teammates. It is technically strong with crisp focus, proper exposure, and correct shutter speed to freeze the fast-moving action. Photographing peak moments, especially during sporting events, is a critical skill for any photojournalist which involves being in the right place at the right time, knowing the sport, anticipating the action (or reaction) and being ready to make the photo. This photographer has done all that.*

2<sup>nd</sup> place      Oceana Lee  
"Maestro of Math"  
Toby Johnson Middle School - Elk Grove, California  
Adviser: Laura Zhu

3<sup>rd</sup> place      Sarah Wederquist  
"When the birds go flying in"  
Bellevue West High School - Bellevue, Nebraska  
Adviser: Aaron Stueve

honorable mention      Caitlin Troyer  
"Kick Start"  
Coeur d'Alene High School - Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Adviser: Bruce Twitchell

**23. YEARBOOK COPYWRITING**

- 1<sup>st</sup> place                      Aaron Mercado  
                                      "Boys Basketball Story"  
                                      Fremont High School - Fremont, Nebraska  
                                      Adviser: Jack Denker  
                                      *Excellent lead! I felt the tension immediately! You kept the pace in perfect proportion to the tension. This is a nearly perfect piece—great topic, exciting story line, great pace, good quotes. I felt like I was there (and was so disappointed they didn't win state!). It read a bit like a "Hoosiers" story line. Extremely well-written, captivating, clear. Excellent writing, excellent piece!*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place                      Nicole Keegan  
                                      "One in a Brazilian"  
                                      Palo Alto High School - Palo Alto, California  
                                      Adviser: Brian Wilson
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place                      Rachel Story  
                                      "Junior finds passion in film"  
                                      Cy-Fair High School - Cypress, Texas  
                                      Adviser: Craig Malinsky
- honorable mention        Gracen Goudy  
                                      "Chills Down Your Spine"  
                                      Bryant High School - Bryant, Arkansas  
                                      Adviser: Lisa Stine