



The National Federation of Press Women, Inc.

140B Purcellville Gateway Dr., Suite 120, Purcellville, VA 20132 · (571) 295-5900

info@nfpw.org www.nfpw.org

FOR RELEASE 5 p.m. EDT on May 22, 2021

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Students win national recognition for communications work

PURCELLVILLE, VA – Students from throughout the United States are being honored for their outstanding communications efforts.

Nearly 2,000 students participated in this year’s contest sponsored by the National Federation of Press Women Education Fund. Students first competed in a state-wide communications contest and first place winners were selected to advance to the national round of competition. In states where a contest was not offered, NFPW hosted an at-large contest which the first place winners also advancing to the national competition.

Winner of the Award of Achievement, commonly called the “Best of the Best” award was Sumit Nalavade, a junior from Heritage High School in Frisco, Texas. He won a \$250 cash award and his school communications program also received a \$250 check.

The first place winners in each category will receive a \$100 cash prize.

The national winners, announced May 22 in a Zoom ceremony, include:

Editorial

First place -- Bayarmaa Baterdene, Stevenson High School, Lincolnshire, Illinois, Posts and Picket Signs

Second place -- Mary Ruth Taylor, Little Rock Central High, Little Rock, Arkansas, Students Suffer Consequences of Penalty to Teachers

Third place -- Tyler Zimmer, The Haverford School, Haverford, Pennsylvania, The Index endorses Joe Biden

Honorable Mention -- Editorial Board Harker Aquila, The Harker School, San Jose, California, Be Brave

Honorable Mention -- Meghan Wysocki, Grosse Pointe South High School, Grosse Point, Michigan, Justice and Journalism: RBG's Life, Loss, and Legacy.

Opinion

First place -- Georgia Bernbaum, Winter Park High School, Maitland, Florida, It's Sexist to Insist That Athletes Cover Their Sports Bras



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Second place -- Rida Zar, Sunny Hills High School, Fullerton, California, Despite use of the N-word, the accurate portrayal of racial injustice in ‘To Kill a Mockingbird’ must stay in high school English classes

Third place -- Hannah Nguyen, North Penn High School, North Wales, Pennsylvania, OPINION: The forgotten race

Honorable Mention -- Hyunsung Na, Edward S. Marcus High School, Flower Mound, Texas, Rebounding racism

Honorable Mention -- Teonna Davis, R. Nelson Snider High School, Fort Wayne, Indiana, Pondering The Definition Of Black

News Story

First place -- Victoria Feng, Adlai E. Stevenson High School, Buffalo Grove, Illinois, Colleges Are Hiring Influencers to Make Mask-Wearing a Trend

Second place -- Jack Clay, Bryant High School, Bryant, Arkansas, Art Amid Chaos

Third place -- Julianna Chang, Gunn High School, Palo Alto, California, A Tale of Two Cities

Honorable Mention -- Jeffrey Yang, The Haverford School, Haverford, Pennsylvania, Facilities steps up after hours to keep school safe

Honorable Mention -- Gia Zafiroopoulos, Padua Academy, Wilmington, Delaware, How Covid Has Affected the Food Production Business

Feature Story

First place -- Sophia Craig, Edward S. Marcus High School, Flower Mound, Texas, Leaping ahead

Second place -- Shradha Dinesh, Rock Ridge High School, Ashburn, Virginia, Sisters Launch Mask Business To Help Loudoun Community Combat Pandemic

Third place -- Leah Tan and Sowmya Chundi, Carmel High School, Carmel, Indiana, Feeling Like A Fraud

Honorable Mention -- Gina Bae, Gianna Brogley and Valerie Chu, Palo Alto High School, Palo Alto, California, The Voices Behind the Votes

Honorable Mention -- Rhea Patel, Bryant High School, Bryant, Arkansas, Medical Mystery

Honorable Mention -- Humza Qazi and Vaasu Kakuturu, Stevenson High School, Lincolnshire, Illinois, Same Room Different Zoom.

Sports Story

First place -- Madi Olivier, Edward S. Marcus High School, Highland Village, Texas, Back on the pitcher's mound

Second place -- Isabelle Nunes, Carlmont High School, Belmont, California, Beyond the glamour: The world of ballroom hides behind its competitive nature

Third place -- Eli Beck, Southport High School, Indianapolis, Indiana, Looking back, moving forward



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Honorable Mention -- Ethan King, Sparkman High School, Harvest, Alabama, Sawyer Soars
Honorable Mention -- Tom Mueller, Kirkwood High School, Kirkwood, Missouri, Sweet
victory: The story of Jay Leeuwenburg.

Columns or Blog

First place -- Ahmed Ahmed, Southwest Career & Technical Academy, Las Vegas, Nevada, The
Woke Left's Thirst For Retribution

Second place -- Koby Bales and Angela Messere, Grand Island Central Catholic High School,
Grand Island, Nebraska, Tik-Tok: A danger to society; Data privacy in Europe more secure

Third place -- Avery Diaz, Northern Lehigh High School, Slatington, Pennsylvania, Feathers
Over Fur: The Underrated Companions

Honorable Mention -- Justin Ha, Granite Bay High School, Granite Bay, California, Satire: How
to radicalize a political party in four steps; Commentary: Why we shouldn't defund the police

Honorable Mention -- Emily Jefferson, Little Rock Central High, Little Rock, Arkansas, Blue
Skies in, Gray Skies out: Coping with 2020

Honorable Mention -- Eric Reingardt, Greenwood High School, Greenwood, Indiana, Why we
should vote, volunteer.

Review

First place -- Tess Warren, Sparkman High School, Huntsville, Alabama, Viral Game Explodes
on Social Media

Second place -- Eshal Warsi, Cypress Woods High School, Cypress, Texas, 'A Prayer for Owen
Meany': a true masterpiece

Third place -- Chris Hyland, The Haverford School, Haverford, Pennsylvania, Kanye West, this
is a God dream

Honorable Mention -- Sabrina Guo, Syosset High School, Oyster Bay, New York, Empowering
Virtual Conference with Congresswoman Grace Meng

News or Feature photo

First place -- Sophia Beckmann, Kirkwood High School, Kirkwood, Missouri, KHS students
organize "March against injustice"

Second place -- Chenyao Liu, Carmel High School, Carmel, Indiana, Get In The Groove

Third place -- Audrey Persaud, Westside High School, Omaha, Nebraska, What youth can do
protest

Honorable Mention -- Val Pucci, Conestoga High School, Berwyn, Pennsylvania, A Rocky Start
to 2021

Sports Photo

First place -- Marissa Goodwin, Southside High School, Fort Smith, Arkansas, Cheerleader toss
in air



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Second place -- Gentry Appleget, Greenwood High School, Greenwood, Indiana, Volleyball reaction

Third place -- Zoe Gillespie, Westside High School, Omaha, Nebraska, Payson Gillespie shoots a layup with defenders guarding him tightly

Honorable Mention -- Tyler Zimmer, The Haverford School, Haverford, Pennsylvania, Fords score...

Cartooning

First place -- Marisa Donovan, Convent of the Sacred Heart, San Francisco, California, Whack-A-Fire

Second place -- Dean Carrasco, Southwest Career & Technical Academy, Las Vegas, Nevada, How 2020 Put Us Through the Wringer

Third place -- Cecilia O'Leary, Lawrence North High School, Indianapolis, Indiana, Restorative Justice

Honorable Mention -- Katherine Zhang, Conestoga High School, Berwyn, Pennsylvania, RBG

Honorable Mention -- Pangaea Kaan, Marian High School, Omaha, Nebraska, Paranoid pandemic predicament.

Graphics/Photo Illustration

First place -- Riley Terbush, Carmel High School, Carmel, Indiana, Race for a Cure

Second place -- Dante Boelhower, Adams Central Jr/Sr High School, Hastings, Nebraska, Committed

Third place -- Sara Gebka, Huntley High School, Algonquin, Illinois, Healthy or Perfect Graphic

Honorable Mention -- Michelle Lui, The Harker School, San Jose, California, Say their name - and listen

Honorable Mention -- Olivia Lake, Sparkman High School, Madison, Alabama, Election 2020.

Single Page Layout

First place -- No award given

Second place -- Christopher Barnes and Breanna Hoppe, Northern Lehigh High School, Slatington, Pennsylvania, "So Close" front page

Third place -- Nabila Siddiqui and Trista Truong, Southside High School, Fort Smith, Arkansas, Homecoming 2020

Honorable Mention -- Sara Yen, The Harker School, San Jose, California, Decade of the Year

Honorable Mention -- Emily Seiler, The Marquee, Highland Village, Texas, Gouda eats

Honorable Mention -- Elijah Poe, Greenwood High School, Greenwood, Indiana, Issue 5 / Page 4

Honorable Mention -- Anna Olp, Kaneland High School, Maple Park, Illinois, Manifestation and its Many Meanings

Honorable Mention -- Megan Glasgow, Kirkwood High School, Kirkwood, Missouri, Students speak in favor of Biden-Harris



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Honorable Mention -- Grace Virgillito, Marian High School, Omaha, Nebraska, Marian Girls Serve the Community.

Double Truck Layout

First place -- Chloe Sun, Carmel High School, Carmel, Indiana, At Home Abroad

Second place -- Tara Connick, Edward S. Marcus High School, Flower Mound, Texas, Board member suggests drug testing

Third place -- Antonia Mao, Ishani Raha and April Wu, Palo Alto High School, San Francisco, California, The Queen's Gambit

Honorable Mention -- Nabila Siddiqui and Trista Truong, Southside High School, Fort Smith, Arkansas, Center Spread December Issue

Honorable Mention -- Tom Mueller, Kirkwood High School, Kirkwood, Missouri, Your membership: Community aid

Honorable Mention -- Kendall Cope, Sparkman High School, Huntsville, Alabama, Catching the Public Eye

Honorable Mention -- Serena Mehta and Lily Jiang, Stevenson High School, Lincolnshire, Illinois, Diversity

Honorable Mention -- Isa Luzarraga, Millard North High School, Omaha, Nebraska, The Digital Divide.

Environment

First place -- Archit Kalra, Carmel High School, Carmel, Indiana, Climate Conundrum

Second place -- Emily Rutledge, Bryant High School, Bryant, Arkansas, Raging Fires Persist in Australia

Third place -- Holly Urbanczyk, Huntley High School, Huntley, Illinois, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Honorable Mention -- Tara Kapoor, Palo Alto High School, Palo Alto, California, Vote for the Planet

Honorable Mention -- Emily Salzman, Marian High School, Omaha, Nebraska, Omaha Students Give Sustainability a Try; Making Change One Step at a Time.

Radio Prepared Report

First place -- Sage Duarte, Mount Pleasant High School, Wilmington, Delaware, Volunteering.

Second place -- Will Eikenbary, Westside High School, Omaha, Nebraska, Pandemicast: Vote of Confidence.

Radio / Television Interview or Talk Show

First place -- Brandon Eddy, Homewood-Flossmoor, Flossmoor, Illinois, COVID-19

Second place -- Kaylene Lin, Carlmont High School, Belmont, California, Our Footprint Ep. 4: International Bird Rescue.



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Best Newscast: Radio or Television

First place -- Jacob Weaver and Theavan Saitang, Southside High School, Fort Smith, Arkansas, Mav News Monthly – November

Second place -- Cody Hmelar, Benjamin Papp and Jason Goldie, Palo Alto High School, Palo Alto, California, InFocus, Dec. 11, 2020

Third place -- Jack Macfadyen, Myah Walker, Sree Kolli, Laila Qureishi and Sean Saxby, Millard North High School, Omaha, Nebraska, The Blue View

Honorable Mention -- Nathan Lowenstein, Leah Williams, Josh Halpern and Dasha Krachun, Lebanon Trail High School, Frisco, Texas, VanguardTV Season 5 Episode 1

Honorable Mention -- Marissa Perkins, Blake Dawson, Hannah Kinkead and Will Turner, Noblesville High School, Noblesville, Indiana, Around The County - March 6, 2020

Honorable Mention -- PATV Staff, Padua Academy, Wilmington, Delaware, PATV Wednesday Show #2.

Video News Story

First place -- Sumit Nalavade, Heritage High School, Frisco, Texas, Classroom Safety

Second place -- Jacob Weaver, Southside High School, Fort Smith, Arkansas, Mav Minute - Band v. Covid

Third place -- Olivia Sowacke, Homewood-Flossmoor High School, Flossmoor, Illinois, Train Station

Honorable Mention -- Isbella Andaya, Caesar Rodney High School, Camden, Delaware, Spread the Word to End the Word

Honorable Mention -- Amelia Hurley, Kirkwood High School, Kirkwood, Missouri, TKC compares masks

Honorable Mention -- Kiana George, Carlmont High School, Belmont, California, Castro Street: A colorful safe haven

Honorable Mention -- Jack Macfadyen and Myah Walker, Millard North High School, Omaha, Nebraska, Artists At Work.

Video Feature Story

First place -- Erin Mosier, Westside High School, Omaha, Nebraska, The Show (Choir) Must Go On

Second place -- Tori Wright, Homewood-Flossmoor, Flossmoor, Illinois Black in America

Third place -- Kiana George, Carlmont High School, Belmont, California, Aeon Lem's passion for bird watching takes flight

Honorable Mention -- Jacob Weaver, Southside High School, Fort Smith, Arkansas, Mav Minute - Cafeteria Workers

Honorable Mention -- Adriana Myers, Caesar Rodney High School, Camden, Delaware, Acting in a Pandemic

Honorable Mention -- Alysén Rose, Heritage High School, Frisco, Texas, Graphic Designer - Laiba Ali



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Honorable Mention -- Eric Bedrosian, Will Cantwell and Zack Vance, Hamilton Southeastern High School, McCordsville, Indiana, HSETV On The Road: Four Day Ray.

Video Sports Story

First place -- Alysen Rose, Heritage High School, Frisco, Texas, Softball Seniors

Second place -- Jack Macfadyen and Arnav Pokhrel, Millard North High School, Omaha, Nebraska, A Quiet Court

Third place -- Jayanti Jha, Monta Vista High School, Cupertino, California, Man on the street: MVHS fall athletes on playing in a different season

Honorable Mention -- Theavan Saitang and Jacob Weaver, Southside High School, Fort Smith, Arkansas, Mav Minute - Cross Country State Runner.

Yearbook Layout

First place -- Elliot Block, Plattsmouth High School, Plattsmouth, Nebraska, Fall Divider

Second place -- Isabel Pollard, Sparkman High School, Huntsville, Alabama, One Small Step

Third place -- Paige Fuhrman, Bryant High School, Bryant, Arkansas, Game of Graduation

Honorable Mention -- Jessica Stott, Southwest Career & Technical Academy, Las Vegas, Nevada, Coyote Games

Honorable Mention -- Lucy Bickel, Eastern Lebanon County School District, Myerstown, Pennsylvania, A Divided Nation - Election Yearbook Spread

Honorable Mention -- Julia Beck, Midway High School, Waco, Texas, School Spirit Spread 2020

Honorable Mention -- Nicholas Pratt, Huntley High School, Lake in the Hills, Illinois, Quaranteens.

Yearbook Photo

First place -- Sam Priestley, Kirkwood High School, Kirkwood, Missouri, Megaphone

Second place -- Alex Melton, Bryant High School, Bryant, Arkansas, With Joy on His Face

Third place -- Katie Baird, Midway High School, Waco, Texas, Science Flame Lab

Honorable Mention -- Katie Fulkerson, Millard North High School, Omaha, Nebraska, Color Guard.

Yearbook Copywriting

First place -- Grace Williams, Kirkwood High School, Kirkwood, Missouri, Pitching With a Purpose

Second place -- Ashley Courtois, Bryant High School, Bryant, Arkansas, Stepping in Time

Third place -- Katie Anthony, Huntley High School, Huntley, Illinois, Quaranteens

Honorable Mention -- Breanna Muff, Dorchester High School, Crete, Nebraska, Injuries Take a Toll But Players Don't Give Up

Honorable Mention -- Zoie Bishop, Midway High School, Waco, Texas, Community Service Projects Story 2020.